

# Sheldon program features 'Sacrificed Youth'



Scene from "Sacrificed Youth."

Courtesy of Sheldon Film Theater

By Micki Haller  
Senior Editor

During the cultural revolution in China, many young people were exiled to the countryside to live and work.

## movie REVIEW

Those children are now grown up; their experiences make some of the themes of modern Chinese literature and films. New directors, known as the "fifth generation" of Chinese cinema, want to examine the cultural revolution and its ramifications on Chinese culture.

"Sacrificed Youth" is another film by one of these fifth generation directors, and part of Sheldon Film Theater's New Chinese Cinema program.

Directed and scripted by Xiang Nuanxin, a woman who graduated from the Beijing Film Academy in 1962, "Sacrificed Youth" is about a city girl who is exiled to the Yunnan province to live with the Dai minority.

Li Chun (Li Fengxu) lives with a farmer and his aged mother, Ya. She takes a liking to the family, and slowly adapts to the ways of the Dai.

Coming from Beijing, life is hard for Li at first. She doesn't fit in with the Dai villagers. They are uninhibited, emotional people with a simple life and simple ways. Li, a Han, has been taught austerity; her clothes are plain and ugly to the Dai and her ways are criticized.

"Dai kids like beauty," the farmer tells her. "Why don't you do yourself up a bit?"

"We were taught that beauty lies in simplicity," Li says, but her clothes change from the dull, city blues to

bright sarongs, and she wears her hair up, like the rest of the Dai.

The other girls begin to accept her, and she slowly becomes part of the clan.

The villagers begin to accept her; the other city youths laugh a little, but even they are accepting these new ways.

In the meantime, the farmer's son comes home. He sees Li and falls in love. But Li loves a boy from Beijing, Ren Jia. During a festival, the son becomes drunk and beats Ren. Li leaves the village to teach elementary school.

Eventually she leaves the countryside, and enters college.

She returns once, and finds that the village has been destroyed by a mudslide.

One of the themes in the movie is the choice that women have in society. Li could choose between a tough, intellectual life in the city, or a life of hard physical labor in the country. She is seduced by the easy country ways; despite the hard work, she doesn't have to think about many things.

"The young girls here can only enjoy themselves for a few years," Ren tells her. "Then they're sister-in-laws, and aunts with black teeth."

And in the end, Li chooses to go back to the city.

The cinematography is fantastic. From the waters of China, the forest in the south, to the simple beauty of Dai girls bathing and the slaughter of a bull during the festival, Xiang doesn't mind showing every part of Dai life.

The actors deliver fine performances, and the subtitles are very good.

"Sacrificed Youth" shows at the Sheldon Film Theater Wednesday at 1 p.m., Thursday at 7 p.m. and Friday at 3 and 9 p.m.

# Czech quartet to perform Saturday at Sheldon

The Talich String Quartet of Prague, Czechoslovakia, will perform in the Sheldon Art Gallery auditorium at 8 p.m. Saturday.

This is the second concert of the Lincoln Friends of Chamber

Orchestra's fall season.

Formed in 1964, the quartet was chosen as the laureate of the European Festivals Association in 1970. Since 1975, the group has been affiliated with the Czech Philharmonic.

The quartet performs regularly in major European cities and most of the important European international festivals. The group has also toured the Near East, Far East and Australia. Members are Petr Messiereur and

Jan Kvapil, violins; Jan Talich, viola; and Evzen Rattay, cello.

Suk, Martinu and Janacek.

The Talich Quartet is noted for its interpretations of the great composers of its homeland — Smetana, Dvorak,

The quartet will include "Quartet No. 2 in D minor," by Smetana, "Lettres Intimes," by Janacek and "Quartet No. 6" by Bartok.

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# General Hospital's Colton Shore to speak with fans at city union

General Hospital's Colton Shore, a.k.a. Scott Thompson Baker, will be in the Nebraska Union Ballroom Oct. 29 at 8 p.m.

Fans will get a chance to talk with Baker, sponsored by the University Program Council Arts Committee.

Aside from his role on the soap opera, Baker has acted in Minneapolis's Tyrone Guthrie Theater.

He said in a recent interview with UPC that he would never discourage anyone from acting.

Baker got his start on the Star Search television show. He won the acting category and reigned 13 weeks as the undefeated champion, and went on to win the \$100,000 grand championship.

Baker takes his job seriously, he said.

"It's a rare and powerful effect to have on an audience by having the opportunity to affect people not just through words, but through movement as well," he said.

Tickets are \$3.50 for University of Nebraska-Lincoln students, and \$5 for the general public. Tickets are available today at a booth in the Nebraska Union, and at the door.



Courtesy of University Program Council

Baker

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