

European film entertains rebellion while Hollywood plays with snakes

Al Locke

The one identifiable trait in this year's Academy Award nominees for Best Foreign Film is the notion of rebellion.

Andrzej Wajda's *Man of Iron*, a docu-drama, traces the rise of Poland's Solidarity movement. Given the current political situation in Poland, and a new government unsympathetic to artists, the film was officially withdrawn from award competition. In a terse rebuke on the Polish Government's stance, the Academy refused to allow their request.

The official Italian entry is *The Three Brothers*, a compilation of 20th century political thought and artistic philosophy. The focus is terrorism and the Red Brigade. The emotional nature of the subject matter (nurtured in pre-production meetings held in Rome's Aldo Moro Square) make *The Three Brothers* a study in heavy handed "message" cinema. A lighter touch was needed as symbols of fertility and violence clashed more often than voices raised in argument in the film.

Remarkably, *The Three Brothers* is the first Italian film made whose topic is current political strife through terrorism. In outright damning



A scene from Markus Imhoof's exciting Swiss film *The Boat is Full*. The film shocked many Swiss citizens.

the Red Brigade, the directors' integrity and courage is commendable. The fact that *Three Brothers* is optimistic in its conclusion is laudable.

Markus Imhoof's *The Boat is Full* has enough political intrigue, and cinematic excellence to be the obvious choice for Best Foreign Film of 1982. The official Swiss entrant

details Switzerland's refugee policy across the border to only a severely limited size. Only those with political reasons for seeking refuge status were allowed within the border. Being a Jew in Nazi Germany did not constitute a reason for political asylum.

Through the eyes of a bohemian family of strangers,

brought together in order to survive, Imhoof traces the plight, ostracization and subsequent deporting of the doomed individuals.

The gist of Imhoof's argument is that although the Swiss did something to help refugees and Jews, they did not do enough. The director maintains that the quotes were specifically ambiguous. And he claims the act of deportation was a death sentence to the thousands who were "lucky" enough to escape to Switzerland.

Surprisingly, the Swiss government, even though they withdrew financial support from Imhoof, still regard *The Boat is Full* as their official entry.

Where foreign films are depicting political rebellion, and directors are acting rebellious toward their producers, Hollywood reflects its society's perspective with the latest in electronic spiders and snakes. Just let the Europeans try to top Hollywood at that.

Man of Iron — Carleton Cineplex
The Three Brothers — International Theatre
The Boat is Full — Fine Arts Cinema

Excalibur Staff Meetings
Thursdays at Three

MEDICAL STUDIES
in W.H.O. Listed FOREIGN MEDICAL SCHOOLS
DENTISTRY, VETERINARY, & MEDICAL PROGRAMS
CANADIAN APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED
DO NOT DELAY!!
CALL/WRITE I.S.P.S.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PLACEMENT SERVICE
572 DUNDAS STREET
LONDON, ONTARIO N6B 1W8
(519) 433-1973

Let us Prepare you
For the June 16
LSAT
or the Mar 20
GMAT

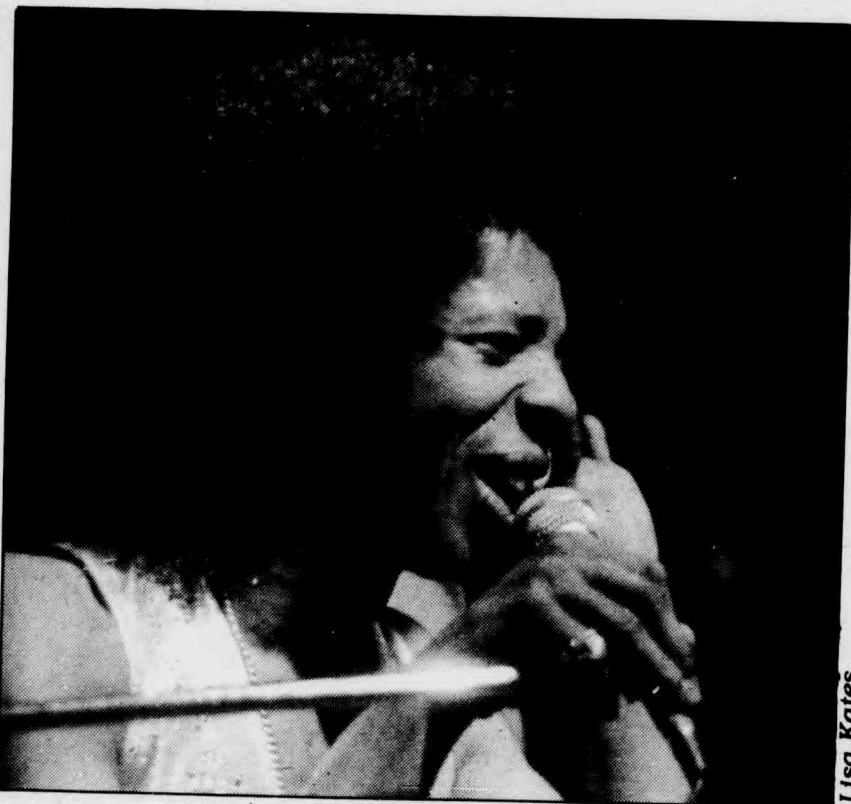
- 20 hours of instruction for only \$135.
- Our courses are tax deductible.
- Complete review of each section of each test.
- Extensive Home Study Methods
- You course may be repeated at no additional charge.

Seminars for the June 16 LSAT
June 4, 5, 6
And for the Mar. 20 GMAT
March 12, 14

To register, call or write:
GMAT/LSAT
Preparation Courses
P.O. Box 597, Station A
Toronto, Ont. M5W 1G7
(416) 638-3177

New Family Stone Impressive

Sly short shifts receptive crowd



The elusive Sly Stone kisses his mike while privileging the crowd with one of his many unorthodox funk ballads.

Clifton Joseph Sly Stone turned off in the middle of turning on.

It wasn't the fault of the boys in the band. The new Family Stone Band, formerly a rag-tag Savannah, Georgia bar band, are a funk/punk conglomerate with an energetic stage presence. A stand-out particularly was percussionist and lead vocalist Benny Williams.

It wasn't that the audience

was not receptive. The sold-out Nickelodeon crowd was excited to see Sylvester 'Marvin' Stewart, alias Sly Stone, back on the concert circuit after a seven year hiatus. Many remembered the keyboardist/vocalist/drummer as a dynamic and unorthodox band leader of the Woodstockian '60's.

It wasn't that this was the last date on this tour. The new Sly and The Family Stone still would

be scheduled to play Ottawa, New Jersey, Philadelphia and then move to the South, finishing with a hometown gig at Savannah.

It wasn't that there wasn't reason for caution. There was. The earlier Nickelodeon show, at 8:00 was brief and abrupt. As a result, management was refunding \$5.00 off the \$10.00 ticket price for those who felt cheated. The night before in a concert at Hamilton Place, Sly and Co. had come to an abrupt end when the band complained that they couldn't hear themselves onstage. There too, refunds were given. The problems caused the promoter to cancel an upcoming gig in Kitchener.

It wasn't that Sly was coming onto the scene cold turkey. For over a year the word was that he was "coming back", once again ready to take the public "higher". He was working closely with George Clinton, head Funkateer of the Funkadelic/Parliament Mothership Convention. In fact, he played drums, synthesizers, and sang on the Funkadelic's last album *Electric Spanking of War Babies*. And he is featured on the P-Funk All Stars single.

It was though, that the highly-touted 'comeback' of Sly and the Family Stone was uneven, short, and intriguing (probably because we got so little of it). The band, without Sly, opened with a mixture of originals and cover

tunes, including Grammy Award winner James Ingram's "Make the Magic Last". This they did well.

Then Sly came on. The 'Nick' crowd recognizing the 'star', responded with clapping and shouting. The greying Stone started with his standards, including "Thank You (Falettinme Be Mice Elf agin)" and "Hot Fun in the Summer-time". He played some guitar, noodled on the keyboards, sang a bit, jumped into the air, and generally seemed headed for a good show. Then, magically, he was gone. People banged on the tables, or anything else that was handy. Sly, then the band, returned, played one final tune dedicated to their manager who had been put in jail that day for failure to pay the previous night's hotel bill. After that, they left, leaving the Nickelodeon audience howling in sheer frustration. Sly had succeeded in turning them off in the middle of turning them on.

SOUNDPROOF RECORDS CYSF

Maxell Tape Super-savings
2 — UDXLII cassettes
Only \$8.88 ...Best price in town!

Quantities limited... this sale won't be repeated for at least 3 weeks...
ACT NOW!

+++++

Don't forget to pick up your free Poster with every PolyGram L.P.

