# Bathe your arms in the Sacred Lure of Bloody Passions

by Joanne White
and Alain Marsman

*Santa Sangre*
directed by Alejandro
Jodorowski
at the Paradise Cinema

Off the streets of Mexico City, from the director of "El Topo," comes a new classic of its own genre — *Santa Sangre*.

If you have ever been to the circus, after seeing this film, you may look at knife-throwing and clowns in a totally different light. From the passionate embraces of a fully tattooed woman to the welling pool of blood coughed up by a dying elephant, Jodorowski manages to form an intense psychological thriller.

The symbols of love, lust, religion and death run rampant throughout this film. From the martyred image of an armless, raped woman to the Egyptian Phoenix, Jodorowski plays with the viewer's mind on a very deep, intellectual level.

This movie, although painful to watch (because of the harsh imagery and realistic undertones) is at worst slightly offensive, at best, emotionally compelling.

There are plenty of recognizable image patterns, however, the largest part of the energy is beneath the surface, tapping into the viewer's inner spaces.

If you want to see a film that will entertain you, horrify you and twist your mind, *Santa Sangre* is the film for you. It's a great bonus that we have a new venue for alternative film. Take advantage of it.

*Santa Sangre* is playing at the Paradise Cinema (1006 Bloor Street West) for a limited engagement until October 18. (Tuesdays are 2 for 1.)



*Fenix roosts on his perch*