



Maxie, starring Glenn Close premieres September 11.

Future flicks

by Dean Bennett

For Orion Pictures, comedy will be the rule rather than the exception as 10 of their 17 upcoming movie projects will be of a humorous nature.

Comic talents like Woody Allen, Rodney Dangerfield, Steve Martin, John Candy, Tim Conway and Gene Wilder are all currently working or will be working on films for the Los Angeles based company.

The following is a list of the projects that will be released between now and the end of 1986. Of course, due to the inherent uncertainty of the profession, maybe some of these movies won't be made; or maybe some will be made and not shown; or made under one title and released under another. Ah, such is the fickleness of Hollywood.

Beer is the story of a woman ad executive who tips the beer industry on its ear with a successful advertising campaign about "three average guys." The show is a satiric look at the advertising business and was to be released August 23. Notable cast members include Loretta Swit and Rip Torn.

Miracles is a romantic comedy about a recently divorced couple who are thrown together again when both are taken hostage by a Mexican bank robber. Tom Conti (*Reuben Reuben*) and Teri Garr (*Mr. Mom*) star. The film is in post-production and is scheduled for a September 20 release.

Remo: The First Adventure is an action adventure film about Remo Williams, another one of those tough hardnosed cops. Against his better judgement, Remo allows himself to be recruited into a clandestine governmental organization that brings to justice powerful international masterminds who operate beyond the law. This film is based on the *Destroyer* series of books by Warren Murphy and Richard Sapir. Fred Ward is cast as Remo. Note: exercise extreme caution in thinking about going to see this film. The screenwriter is Christopher Wood; and unless there are two Christopher Woods running around Hollywood producing scripts for commercial films, this is the same guy who, in 1979, wrote the most mindless of all the James Bonds films — the infamous *Moonraker*. For serious fans of the Bond series, and the genre, Wood will forever burn in a special place in cinematic hell. He is the one I accredit with driving home the final irrevocable nail into the coffin of this once proud series. Okay, maybe the shows were starting their slow decline after *Live and Let Die* in 1972. Maybe the patient was dying, but it was still Dr. Wood who kicked out the plug. But I digress. *Remo* is in post-production with an October 11 release date.

Maxie is about a feisty and sexy movie flapper from the 20's who returns from the dead and decides to inhabit the body of a prim and proper San Francisco wife, turning the latter's marriage into a menage a trois. Glenn Close (*The Big Chill*) stars. The film is set for premiere at the Toronto Festival of Festivals on September 11 and will be in general release on September 27.

Back to School is another vehicle for comedian Rodney Dangerfield. This film has him going back to college, leaving one to envision the hijinks which are sure to ensue. Hopefully, Dangerfield will prove he can carry a lead acting role, something he failed to do in *Easy Money*.

Flesh and Blood is an erotic action adven-

ture story that takes place in the 1500's. A mercenary soldier and a Renaissance man, both representative of different classes and functions, battle it out for power, wealth, and a woman. Rutger Hauer and Jennifer Jason Leigh star. This show premiered in Los Angeles on August 30 and is set for general release on November 1.

Mary Tyler Moore will star in a comedy/drama that has yet to receive a title. The plot is centered around a suburban housewife who finds out her best friend had been having an affair with her recently deceased husband. Ted Danson (*Cheers*) co-stars. No release date.

At Close Range is the story of a bitter and eventually murderous relationship between a teenage father and his son. Both Penns, Sean and Christopher, are in this one. No release date.

The Longshot is another Tim Conway/Harvey Korman team up. The plot chronicles four men, all middle aged losers, who band together for one last shot at the big time (whatever they may be). Jonathon Winters co-stars. Conway is writing the script. No release date.

Clay Pigeons is the tale of an Army major and a young woman officer who are among a group of trainees enduring an Army endurance program. The course syllabus proves deadly, though, as the greenhorns end up fighting for their lives. Tom Skerritt and Lisa Eichorn star. Release date sometime in '86.

F/X is a thriller drama. A special effects man is hired by a witness protection agency to stage a phony assassination. The agency double crosses him, though, and he is framed for murder. The cast includes Bryan Brown and Brian Dennehy (*Gorky Park*). Release date in '86.

The Three Amigos is a comedy about three unwitting heroes who find themselves defending a small Mexican village from an evil band of cut throats. Steve Martin and John Candy star. Martin will write the script. No release date, most likely '86.

Haunted Honeymoon . Gene Wilder, Gilda Radner and Dom DeLuise star in the story of a radio actor and his new bride who spend a terror-filled honeymoon at the actor's gothic family home. The film will be done in the tradition of *Young Frankenstein*, a film Wilder co-wrote with Mel Brooks in 1974. Wilder is co-writing this script with Terence Marsh. No release date.

American Beauties is a comedy about a man who, while being pressured to marry his childhood sweetheart decides in a fit of drunkenness to hitch himself up with an older woman with three children. No actors signed, but Henry Winkler (*Night Shift*) is to direct.

Hannah and Her Sisters is a Woody Allen film and as per Allen's custom, the plot is a secret. Cast includes: Allen, Michael Caine, Mia Farrow, and Carrie Fisher. Allen will also write and direct. Release in '86.

Platoon is the story of naive college guy who loses his innocence when confronted with good and evil (personified by two officers) in the jungles of Vietnam. '86 release; no actors signed.

Absolute Beginners is a musical set in London in the 1950's. The cast includes such music notables as David Bowie, Sade, and Keith Richards. Music will be by Elvis Costello, Madness, Keith Richards, Paul Weeler and Mick Jagger. Release date in '86.



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