# Mediatalk: ms fantastique

Welcome to Mediatalk, the column where we discuss the latest in film. theatre, music and television. Once each month we'll tackle a different topic to give you the latest information on the things coming your way this year and next. This time it's film, and there's a lot going on in the hallowed halls of Hollywood...

Screenwriter Lawrence Kasdan (Body Heat, Empire Strikes Back) has been hired to pen the latest Star Wars epic, Revenge of the Jedi, with Richard Marquand (Eye of the Needle) directing...A sequel to Raiders of the Lost Ark, entitled The Further Adventures of Indiana Jones, is in the works, with Stephen Spielberg as possible director. Spielberg is presently at work in his latest sci-fi masterwork, E.T.(Extraterrestrial) ... Robert E. Howard's hero, Conan the Barbarian is slated for December release, along with E.L. Doctrow's Ragtime (starring Elizabeth McGovern and James Cagney)...John Landis (American Werewolf in London) is planning a remake of The Creature from the Black Lagoon. However, in this rendition there's more than one monster lurking in those swampy waters...Speaking of swamps, Swamp Thing is nearing completion in Louisiana. The pic stars Adrienne Barbeau, who's also in The Next, a horror film...John Carpenter, fresh from duties on

Halloween II, is working feverishty on his latest projects, El Diablo (an occult western) and The Thing From Another World (with makeup by Rob Bottin and Rick Baker. Sounds good...Stephen King is a busy man these days. His Dead Zone is in production under the direction of Sidney Donin for Lorimer and John Carpenter may be slated to direct his



Firestarter for Avco-Embassy. As well, King's Creepshow (direction by George Romero) is nearing

Harrison Ford as a detective tracking down defective killer androids in the year 2020, will be released shortly, as will Looker, the new Michael Crichton film...Dune is to begin shooting early next spring under the direction of David Lynch (Elephant Man and Eraserhead) ... And sequels are the latest 'thing' in Hollywood. The next eighteen months will give us Jaws III. Kramer vs Kramer II (with Dustin Hoffman), Blue Lagoon II and Deathwish II. Catchy titles, eh?...Horror pics are still haunting Hollywood screens, with future features making up almost 40 percent of the total movie market. The lastest creations include Slayride, Dreammaster, The Last Horror Film, Basketcase, Graduation Day. Videodrome (from David Cronenberg, who's also doing Frankenstein), The Exterminator, Dead and Buried(with Jack Albertson as a maniacal mortician), The Survivor, Madman, Mind Warp (from Roger Corman). The Beast Within. The Bogens, and other creeper features destined to chill your blood and turn your hair white. NEXT MONTH: A penetrating look at the latest in televison fare, from the New Maverick to Hello, Sidney. The good, the bad and the very, very bad. In addition, more news and views from the world of film. So stay tuned-same bat month, same bat paper ("Quick, Robin, to the Bat pole!"). Goodnight.

completion...Bladerunner, starring

# Film director stirs the ashes

# Documentary uses rare footage to recreate pre-Holocaust Poland

### Elliott Lefko

It's a film about the tragedymarked Jews living in Poland between the two world wars. Yetoddly enough, instead of leaving audiences depressed, it leaves them exhilarated by the discovery of a vibrant and optimistic society most never knew existed.

The film is Image Before My Eyes, a 90-minute documentary currently at the Carlton Cineplex. Directed by American Josh



bit held in 1977 by the YIVO Institute For Jewish Research which preserves the folk culture, Yiddish language, music, and the theatre stemming from the tradition of Eastern European Jewry.

Waletzky, who has worked as a sound editor on many top American films, was asked to film the exhibit. He was so moved by the display that he immediately accepted and then suggested finding some of the survivors and matching them up with the photos and rare film footage.

The film's theme is expressed in the opening shots. Two photos are shown, one of a Great Polish Synagogue lying in rubble in 1945, and then one of the same synagogue and how it stood in all its glory in the pre-war era. He de-

liberately cut the film's scope off before the Holocaust. "A great deal of attention has already been turned towards the Holocaust." Waletzky justifies. "Eastern Europe has been symbolized by it. I wanted to try to reverse that by showing the tremendous vitality of the people."

When it came to interviewing survivors, Waletzky discovered that there were few who were apathetic and passive. Most had retained the energy and organization that was characteristic of their era.

important to find out about their lives."

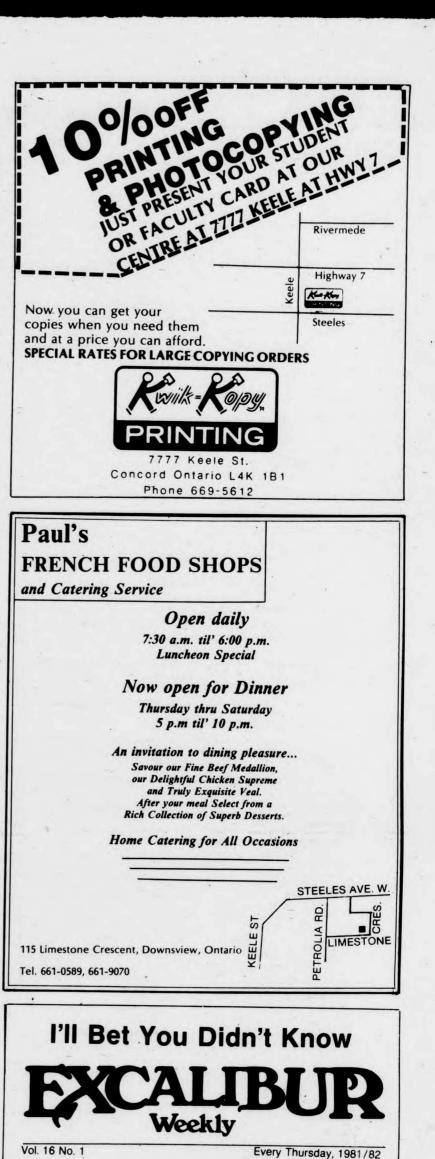
Once they began indulging in nostalgia, the stories flowed and memories that hadn't been touched in 40 years were brought to the screen.

In keeping with his philosophy, Waletzky tried to focus particular attention on the youth. "They directed their energies towards building a future," he says. "They joined different groups, each with their own different dream. There were the Zionists, the Orthodox, and the Socialists.

"It's interesting for us because we don't think of the future that would have come from them. We only see what the external forces impose on them," Waletzky says.

### appreciative audience

Image explores both the simple, hard-working Polish Jews of the country, and the wealthy, well-educated Jews of the city. "People have no idea of the scope of the wealthy life that existed then," he points out. "The 1920's and 30's were a great time for Jewish culture in Fastern Europe.'



## Waletsky eyes Images

Waletzky, the film uses an assemblage of priceless material collected to re-create the conditions of the lives of the 31/2-million Jews living in Poland before the Holocaust. There were only a quarter of a million survivors.

Image grew out of a photoexhi-

They were also happy to talk about their pasts. "It was a release for them. There hadn't been much attention paid to their lives before the war," says Waletsky. "They felt good that someone thought it was

Waletzky has found a wide and appreciative audience for Image. He premiered it at the prestigious Cracow Film Festival in Poland earlier this year.

Future plans for Waletzky include researching a script about the Jewish Resistance to the Nazis in Europe.

ork crime report

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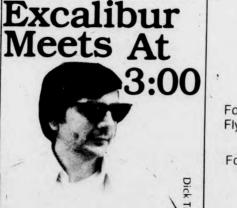
assaults are made by drunken students.

"An important thing to crimes of this type is to remember that we can never really rid the world of crime; consequently, it's not really advisable for female students to be out jogging at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning. A lot of girls feel that it is their right to jog whenever and wherever they want to. This is true in a perfect

world, but it is not so at York.' says Dunn.

Anyone going out to the parking lots late at night need not worry, because there is the York remember when examining Emergency Service, ready. willing and able to escort people to parking lots or investigate stolen items. For their service, dial 667-3333.

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