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## The Song Remains the Same; Led Zep film's for fans only

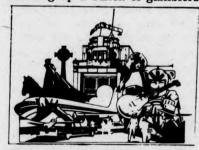
#### By DENISE BEATTIE

Stinging, charging, electrifying and totally stimulating all describe Led Zeppelin's concert-movie, The Song Remains the Same, presented in four channel, quadrophonic, stereo sound at the Varsity Cinema.

The movie couldn't help but embody these qualities as it blasts you aurally and stuns you visually, complete with varying colours and smoke as Led Zeppelin played through two and a half hours of music and "arty" disgressions.

Much of the time is spent getting a close up view of the boys in concert and, for Led Zeppelin fans, gives a satisfying look at the dynamics of Zeppelin as a group and as individuals. The camera focuses on Robert Plant and Jimmy Page with seemingly good reasons. Plant, the lead singer, is sexy in barely groin covering jeans and open vest. He is faintly reminiscent of Joe Cocker and did surprisingly little moving around. Jimmy Page, lead guitarist, in his star and planet studded suit, was all over the stage and seemed completely absorbed in his guitar.

The movie started with the roadies and other such male groupies, playing gangster and shooting up a bunch of gamblers.



This culminated in one gambler getting his head shot off complete with five colours of blood spurting fountain-like out of the neck. Other diversions included scenes the four members at home with wives and children. The audience was allowed to gawk at the splendor of the homes, cars, and so on.

Each man also gave his own small skit, representative of what, is open to interpretation. Plant played some sort of white knight washed up on a beach and then saving a damsel in distress. Page climbed up on a stony cliff only to find himself as an old man at the top (which, incidentally is the same mountain and old man as on the cover of the fourth Led Zeppelin album). John Bonham, the drummer, was, among other things, a racing car driver, and John Paul Jomes (bass and keyboards), played a member of group of masked 17the century British marauders scaring the local women, afterwards going home to his family. The scenes were nice as brief diversions from otherwise a straight concert but were artistically somewhat trite. They could easily be seen as generated from the artistic consciousness of people who focus predominantly on rock and roll to the exclusion of other art forms.

High points of the music were Bonham's drum solo, which effectively backed up his racing car scene and also highly stimulated the audience. Jimmy Page did a guitar solo with a violin bow that was unique and intensely competent. The concert began with Madison Square Gardens, where the condert took place, in total darkness and Led Zeppelin suddently breaking into Black Dog which produced a very effective, lightening-type streak of energy. Generally, the movie was in-

Generally, the movie was interesting to watch but with the extreme volume and also, to an extent the monotony of many of the songs, it would be appreciated only by Led Zeppelin fans or people intrigued by the charisma of strutting males.

## Cheap Shots

The Dutch National Ballet was in town last week, and they put on one hell of a performance. I was there on opening night, along with photog Ed Fox. The lineups were long and furious at the box office, entailing half hour long waits ... but it was worth it! From the opening moment, the troupe had class; from a duet accompanied by piano and percussion, calling on the female dancer to wear high heels through most of the routine, to a fully orchestrated putdown of classical ballet, complete with choreographed goofs. A show otherwise unexpressable in words could only be described as mesmerizing...

Let's pray that the good ol' CBC can come up with some good programming this year. One sign of hope is a new half hour series starting tonight called Teleplay. Tonight's episode is called If Wishes were Horses. Partly filmed at Greenwood, and Woodbine racetracks, the programme neatly captures the atmosphere of horse breeding. My dreams aren't horses, but if that kind of thing interests you, try CBLT at 9:30 tonight . . .

The Strawbs concert has been cancelled, of course, but Tower of Power is still slated at Massey next week . . . all students, faculty, and alumni of the Ontario College of Art are invited to a grand reunion when the College celebrates its centennial Saturday . . . Remember the crowds that went to see Toby Hooper explain the Texas Chainsaw Massacre to a packed Curtis L? It's showing for free, Sunday, but in the smaller Winters JCR at 7 . . . Tonight in that same Curtis L, you can savour the efforts of York film students, including two award winners; Mario Bolduc, for La Nouvelle Vendeuse, and John Bertram's Soauto . . .

If you like band music (you might enjoy a free concert at Queen's Park, Sunday afternoon, presented by the Band of the Royal Regiment of Canada... Starting Wednesday at the Sam Zacks Gallery at Stong, "Photographic Masterpieces". Of outstanding quality, the many prints on exhibit will come from a large and varied assortment of collections...

At the IDA gallery, November 1 to 5, works in xerox and photography by Nancy Nicol... and at Glendon until the twelfth, drawings and paintings by Morus Hummel... at the AGofO Sunday, at 2:30, L'Aventura by Antonioni ... and tonight at 5:30 and 8:30, the conclusion of a series of American Avant Garde films ... The Toronto Symphony starts a series of Family Pops concerts this weekend at Massey, this time featuring music from Russia and France ... Creeps, the play that opened the Tarragon Theatre many years ago, will be presented from November 1-7 by Glendon's Dramatic Arts Programme.

E. L.

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