Dance in Music of India Festival 1987

by Jeff Oss

For the third consecutive year, the MUSIC OF INDIA FESTIVAL will be celebrated at the U of A this Friday, March 27, with a fresh twist from previous festivals.

Two events are scheduled: a morning workshop, the Rythmn and Ritual of South Indian Dance held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 1-29 of the Fine Arts building and an evening concert entitled: Music of Poetry, Music of Dance being held at 8 p.m. in the Lecture Theatre 1 in the Humanities Center.

All events are open to the public and free

Concerts in the past two years celebrated

the music of North India, but the aim of the festival, explained Kanhaya Gupta, director of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, is to fairly represent the different regions of that vast country and not limit itself to just one. So, this year, the festival brings attention to another area.

"The major focus this year," Gupta points out, "will be on dance from South India.

The pride and joy of the Musical Festival of India Festival '86 is the classical dancer Anuradha Naimpolly.

Ms. Naimpolly, an adept Bharata Natyam dancer (a South Indian dance genre), summarizes her past highlights as having performed several concerts in New York, as part of the Festival of India celebrations in 1985, at the annual conference of the Raga Mala Performing Arts of Canada in Winnipeg in the Spring of 1986. She was also invited to perform at the opening ceremonies of the Statue of Liberty in July. She is currently working on her MA at York University in Toronto.

According to Naimpolly, "the dance is a spiritual means for the integration of thought, emotion, and action."

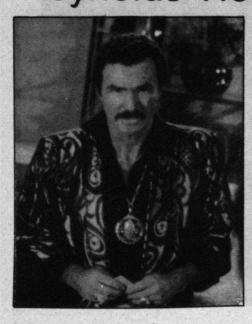
Though this ancient Indian classical dance has taken on the additional role of entertainment, its very essence lies in the sacred themes which pervade every gesture and

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At certain points in the performance Naimpolly will stop to address a particular movement, interpreting it for the audience. With her descriptions and explanations, even the uninitiated spectator will be able to appreciate the spiritual depth of this ancient art form.

The morning workshop, led by Naimpolly, explores the intimate relationship between classical dance and the music of India and participant are given an opportunity to actively experience the Bharata Natyam movement repertoire. No knowledge of dance or music is required.

Reynolds' Heat is lukewarm



Rialto Theatre New Century/Vista Film Co. review by Dragos Ruiu

There are two things we all know about Heat: It just has to be bad, and someone will inevitably make a temperature joke about it. To confirm both, Heat is pretty cold.

Burt Reynolds plays Nick Escalante. That name should be a giveaway. Another tough and gritty one man army. The twist? This time the army is a specialist with bladed weapons and is "possibly the most lethal man alive (groan) He's been written up in Soldier of Fortune magazine, and he works as an 'escort' in Las Vegas.

You get the picture, and it looks like a

rerun. But, since movies of this kind don't survive unless they try something new, they use a couple of twists on the ole toughdude-kicks-ass stratagem.

The beginning of the movie is a kind of neat scene where Nick gets beat up, but after a little bit the surprise wears thin and you start to see what is going on. Until then, this is a really intriguing beginning.

The second good point of this movie is a cameo from Howard Hessman (Johnny Fever from WKRP) and a really fun scene where a fan of Nick's writes in to ask what the best way to garrote a dog is. ("I like to wear a dog

The rest of the movie is filled with little chuckles, like Reynolds in a satin blue and green pimp suit(!).

The plot, as thin as it may be, is as follows: Escalante's childhood girl-friend gets raped by the son of a mobster having fun. Nick kicks some ass, and the mobster's son tries to get revenge. There is also a subplot about the geek who is new in L.A. and wants to learn how to be tough from Escalante.

The action sequences are reminiscent of Sam Peckinpah directions, with slow-motion and realistic blood. It's the slow motion that makes you groan, and groan, and groan. Another tacky cinematography method used is the hero's eye view: a) you get to see what it looks like when Burt towers over the bad guy, and b) you get the bad guy's view of Burt towering over him. Tacky indeed.

All in all the movie is traditional Reynolds fare, another occasionally funny, always tough (and funny because of it) guy. A mildly new plot, a little action, and a lot of looking tough. The only question is why is it named Heat, no one even mentions the word?

If you like Burt and his ego, go check it out. If not, don't go see it unless it's ripoff Tuesday.



Naimpolly is an expert in Bharata Natyam dance.

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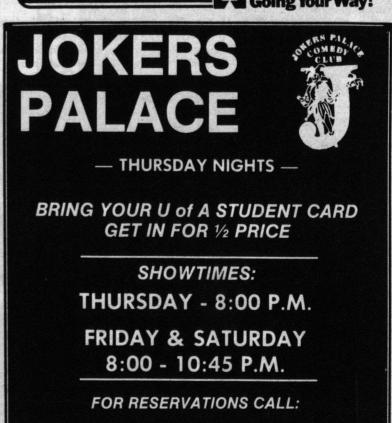


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