

Prince — sex to the beat

Prince: Sign "O" The Times Cineplex Odeon Films Cinema 6, Plaza

review by Jerome Ryckborst
Hey you! You like sex-to-the-beat? Go see
Sign "O" The Times!

Sign "O" The Times!

Oh, you want more? Well... Let me see. Sign "O" The Times is a concert movie, as in Prince (the short little sleazy-singing guy in eccentric clothes and four inch high heels) and the Revolution (the big betting mamas and fast-dancing backup band).

You will see Prince's entire Sign "O" The Times album performed live, in Rotterdam, before a huge audience who all filts their bic to the beat. The beat is fast, and that's a lot of flicking.

Rotterdam is in Holland, and it is no accident that Sign "O" The Times was filmed there. Dutch audiences are renowned for their critical liveliness. Musicians who put on a good show are showered in appreciation; those who don't, aren't.

those who don't, aren't.

Prince is the world's best live entertainer.

The man is very's avare of his image. In everything, he does he always portrusy himself as a musician. In Sign "O" The Times, the instruments are all over the stage; so Prince is all over the

What's good about this film: we get to see

Prince up close. A chance to see how he feels about what he sings. The facial expressions, the exchanges between the band members, the stuff you don't see from back of some stadium. You get to see the holes cut in unusual places in shelia E.'s leotard and Prince's pants. Prince plays a mean guitar—fingers flying over the frets, and the camera zoomed in right on top.

zoomed in right on top.
What's bad about this film: sheena Easton.
The woman can't dance. She can't look seazy, she can't look sensual. Her big claim to fame is winning the Eurovision Festival six years ago (My baby takes the "Morring Train", he works from mine to five and then...)
Fortunately she's only on for one tune: "You got the look"— Hal Sign "O"The Times is more than just Prince. This film has some wild jazz musicians who play Charlie Parker as well as Prince's own work.

This film has Boni Boyer. Boni's big and black, and she belts out her solos like stand aside, freight train comin' through.

This film has Cat, a lean mean dancing machine. She rides up and down on a heart-shaped bed, rattles a few cages and wiggles up and down a lot. She sings too. (Eat your heart out Sheena).

And best of all, Sheila E. beats up her drum et. Sheila E. is tough.

You know what? You may not like this film. This is no Purple Rain. This film has no plot, no dialogue. It's just music. As with any live concert, you'll enjoy it more if you know the tunes. And if this were a live concert, you'd all be born-again funk fans.

Life after war for an Unknown Soldier

George Payerle Unknown Soldier MacMillan of Canada

review by Don Trembath

review by Don Trembath
George Payrelés prorivaal of a soldier's life when he is no longer a soldier offers disturbing insight into life after war. Payerle depicts what civilization is like for someone who is neither prepared to return nor able to forget the horrors experienced on the battle-field. Sam Collister is the hero of Unknown Soldier. He spent six years dodging death, protecting his men and killing the enemy. He returned to Canada when he was twenty-five with a young bride and an eagerness to live a normal life. His fighting days were over. His days of living beneath a blanket of fear, pain, anger and death were over. But his war was not over.

The novel begins in Belgium. Sergeant

The novel begins in Belgium. Sergeant Collister has just led his men through a bloody buttle with the Germans. His foot was shot, but his mission was successful. Then the shot, but his mission was successful. Then the setting switches to Vancouser. A much calmer environment, but the one in which Pagerle occuses his novel. He changes sam Collister's battle grounds from the toggy serieness of belgium to the city streets and hotel bars of a beautiful Canadian city. The novel is not about the war between Germany and the Allies, but ather the war that lingers within the mind. This war war that lingers within the mind. This war that of the galantity established friends, to trous killings of the enemy, endless far ingithmere and the realization that all of the gallantity eshibited before means little now.

During a ferry ride to Victoria to visit a friend, Sam encounters allock youth wearing thered, Sam encounters as lext, south wearing the direct, Sam encounters as lext, south wearing the same direct and the direct same direc

Journg a terry ride to Victoria to visit a friend, Sam encounters a slick youth wearing an Iron Cross around his neck. He is enraged by the attitude of the "chesty dude" and losen his cool when he sees the cross: "This thing used to be worn by guys who went out to get shot at by guys like me." Then he starts a fight.

fight.

This incident symbolizes the frustration that Sam endures, and therefore the message that Payerle wishes to convey. The memory of the war is so clear to Sam that the instant he sees the cross he remembers sighting in on human targets, shooting to kill. He does not like the memory, but he cannot free himself of it. This is essentially the theme of the novel: a man's brutal fight to forget the haunting memories of war.

Through other characters, Payerle emphasizes the devastating effects of this psychological battle. Hugh, Sam's son, grew up never knowing his father and then not understanding him when they meet. Then there is Effe, a drunken widow whose husband was a war veteran who talked continuously about tanks. Sam blamse her for her husband's death because she could not relate to his stories. Sam's wife Dot loses him because of his problems adjusting to civilian life, and ends up with a pushy capitalist for a husband.

The memory that burdens Sam poore than

husband.

The memory that burdens as m more than any other is that of his friend Hugh, after whom his son was named, who was killed during a flerce battle. His death alone would have been hard on Sain, but Hugh's giflriend had managed to sneak out to the battle field soon after he died. For Sam, the love that she displayed and the anguish in her eyes when her efused to let any of his men bury Hugh is too vivid to forget. She then performed an act that Sam remembers daily. He has recurring nightmares about this event in his life, it mars his relationship with his son and confuses Lilly, the wonan he meets and with whom he falls in love.

Payerle's novel has impact. His style in-

falls in love.

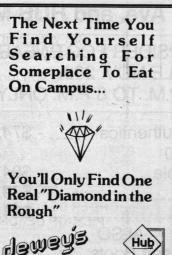
Payerle's novel has impact. His style includes brief pieces of descriptive prose which describe pieces of descriptive prose which describe pieces of descriptive of warfare. Some state of the pieces of descriptive of warfare, some state of the pieces of

is a signity unrealistic character.

But the novel is a good one. Very good.
Payerle has provided yet another reason to
abolish warfare, and to find other methods
to resolve conflicts between countries. War
does not end when the soldier goes home.
Nor are the effects of the war only felt by the
soldier himself. Others are affected as well.

soldier nimsen. Lomers are anecuted as wen. The book ends on a happy note. Sam finds some peace with himself and his son and he seems ready to live the life that he thought he would live years earlier when he returned to Canada. Whether or not this ending happens to real soldiers is debatable, but it a nice way to end the novel, with hope.





"When Quality Counts We're the Only Choice'

