



Carole Laure and Lewis Furey are the stars of *Fantastica*.

Le retour de l'enfant prodige

Carole Laure works well with Carle. "Do you realize how spoiled I am, having Gilles Carle write films for me?" she asked Wayne Crigsby of *Maclean's*. "In each film we've made together, he's taken something in my character, my background and made it into film. If you took the films we've made together and put them end-to-end, you'd have my life."

She now identifies with Lorca in *Fantastica*: "I play a girl who is starting to be a star — she is full of contradictions, exterior very light, an extrovert, but full of deep emotions." On the set she sometimes seems like a child seeking Carle's frequent approval. They first met years ago, when she was very young; and in 1972, when she was about twenty-three, Carle cast her in *La mort d'un bûcheron*, not one of his best, though it was shown at the Cannes Film Festival. They lived and worked together in *Les corps célestes* and *La tête de Normande St-Onge* but split up domestically in 1977. Some six months later, Carle, Laure and Lewis Furey made *L'ange et la femme*.

She is hauntingly beautiful, small, fragile looking and intense, determined to be a super star. "I'm photogenic. I want to use it to seduce millions." She is also business-like, disciplined and self-confident. She grew up in a foster home in Shawinigan and is very much a Québécoise, not likely to be taken for an American, though most Americans who saw her in *Get Out Your Handkerchiefs* probably took her to be French.



Gilles Carle on the *Fantastica* location.

La musique jouée avec Furey

Lewis Furey, born Greenblatt in Montreal, came to the screen after an eventful musical career. He appeared with the Montreal symphony at eleven, but as a teen-age student at the Juilliard school in New York, he abandoned the violin — "I did not like the prospect of being a monk, alone in a room" — and became instead a pop musician, a song writer and a cabaret performer. He has had two albums produced in Los Angeles, and he and Laure have appeared on stage, to great acclaim, in Montreal and Paris.

The editing and soundtracking of *Fantastica* will be completed this fall. The French actors will speak in French; Furey and Vernon will speak in English; Laure will sing in English, speak in French and do her own dubbing. Carle says the poor effects sometimes achieved by dubbers are the result of incompetence — "The problem in dubbing is the people who dub" — and that the French tracks for *Cabaret* and *Hamlet* are works of art.

Fantastica is being co-produced by Guy Fournier of Les Productions du Verseau, Montreal, and Charlyne Ascaso of E.I. Productions, Paris. The Canadian Film Development Corporation is also involved in the financing.