

# The Europeans - potential not there

The Dalhousie Fall Film Series got underway Sunday, Sept. 14, 8:00 p.m., with an English feature, *The Europeans*. The movie was made in 1979 by director James Ivory, in an adaptation of a novel by Henry James.

The film was somewhat slow, and generally lacked shape and consistency. Revolving around the effect on a

rather puritan New England family in the nineteenth century of the arrival of two European cousins, the plot in itself never rises above the level of a tepid historical romance, and can't seem to decide if it is closer to a Galsworthy saga or a French farce.

As it unrolls, the story deals with the very different lifestyles and beliefs of the newcomers, and the staid traditions of the Americans in the film, who try and protect their children from being infected by the nasty wantonness of the soon-to-be divorced young

baroness, and her frivolous bohemian brother. The religious dogma versus freedom and pleasure is never put in coherent, or even very serious terms, however, and is lost in the shuffle of sub-plots.

Ivory gives us glimpses of a few possibly promising characters: A Unitarian minister torn by love, a New England gentleman wavering between his role as set by society and his desire for an untraditional woman, and the designing young baroness seeking a marriageable fortune in America (the latter is played by Lee Remick, who gets star billing, though one couldn't tell by her role) but they are never truly made alive, never plumbed far enough down to

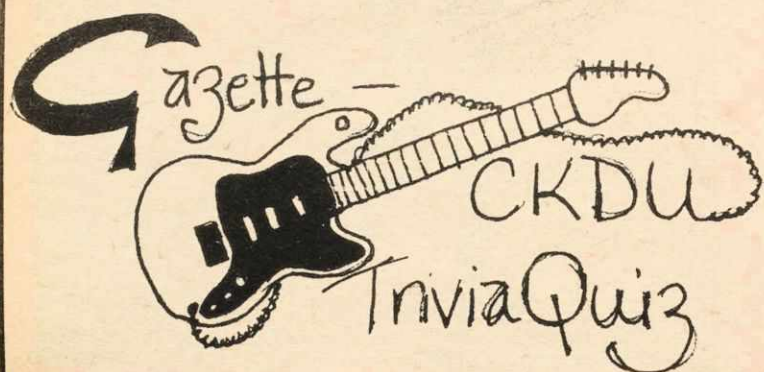
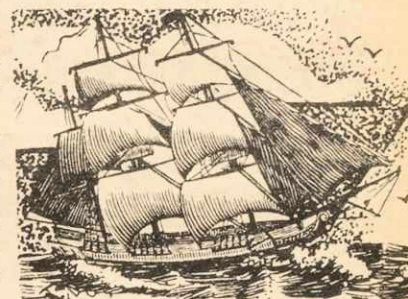
establish them as people who could be identified with.

The forest area in the Boston suburb setting is beautifully captured by director of photography Cary Pizer, who impresses the viewer with the richness of colour and naturalness of the landscape film. However, he detracts from himself later when, inexplicably and almost with Monty Pythonesque ridiculousness, he includes a boom and microphone in two rather delicate scenes which did not survive the intrusion.

Although never achieving its potential, the film is saved from total tedium by the magnificent performance of Lisa Eichorn as a wonderfully free-spirited romantic who soars

above the limits her stilted New England upbringing tries to impose upon her.

The next film in the series is *The Killing of a Chinese Bookie*, a John (Dillinger) Cassavetes movie (with the always assiduous Ben Gazzara) which appears September 21 at 8:00 p.m. and promises not, at least, to be slow.



## CKDU TRIVIA QUIZ NO. 1

1. What was Marc Bolan's band called?
2. On what date did Buddy Holly die?
3. Who recorded "Bitches Brew"?
4. Who won five Grammy Awards in both 1974 and 1975?
5. Who wrote the "New World Symphony"?
6. Where is Patti Smith based?
7. What song by Chris de Burgh prompted him to record his first album?
8. What band does Phil Collins play in?
9. What famous jazz guitarist could only use two fingers on his left hand?
10. Who wrote the song "Me and Bobby McGee"?
11. Who wrote the opera "Aida"?
12. What is Bob Geldof's band called?
13. "Lady Sings the Blues" is about who?
14. It was "the End" for who at the Whiskey-a-Go-Go?
15. Who recorded the album "Secret Treaties"?



In order to win the album "Uncut" by the Powder Blues Band, print your name, telephone number and the quiz answers on a piece of paper and submit to the Gazette-CKDU Trivia Quiz Box at the CKDU offices on the fourth floor S.U.B. or the Gazette offices on the third floor S.U.B. Winners and quiz answers will be aired on CKDU at 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday and printed in the next issue of the Gazette. For further contest regulations, visit the Gazette or CKDU offices.



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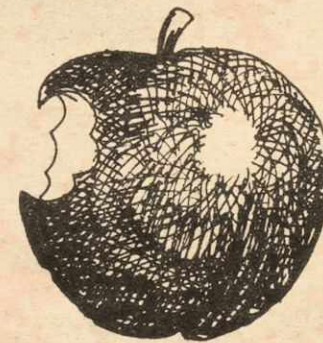
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