

# Spotlight

## JAMES REANEY GO AWAY

James Reaney, Canadian poet, and university professor, thinks he is a playwright. What sad delusions of grandeur! I have never seen such a hack attempt at writing plays as THE THREE DESKS. Reaney used every gimmick that symbolizes out-dated melodramatic theatre. (And they didn't even have popcorn!) He created only four believable characters out of a cast of eighteen.

It was easy to believe that the LONDON LITTLE THEATRE is an amateur group when you consider the sets and sound effects. The production was supposedly

designed by Jutta Gregor, but it was reminiscent of an antique collector's nightmare. The only technical merit was the lighting which suspiciously showed the mark of York's Nick Ayre.

For the most part, the actors and director did the best they could with this so-called play. Eric Atkinson, Fraser Boa, Greg Brandt, Susan Crowther, and the group playing the students tried valiantly to make something of this dramatic abortion.

This play is a centennial project. I weep for Centennial!

by Don McKay

### EVENTS CALENDAR

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10**  
JASS/CLASSICAL CONCERT, Butch Watanabe (Trombone) and Quartet, Dining Hall, Vanier College, York Campus, 3:00 p.m.  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12**  
'VIVRE SA VIE', (France-Godard-1962), presented by Glendon Film Society, Room 204, York Hall, Glendon Campus, 8:15 p.m.

Every Sunday at York, Film Series, 'THE GIRL WITH GREEN EYES', starring Rita Tushingham, and John Grierson's National Film Board documentary classic of 30's - 'THE DRIFTERS'

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13**  
Prof. Charles Hanley speaking on 'THE CONCEPT OF UNCONSCIOUS', Vanier Social & Debates Room, 8:00 p.m., Everyone welcome.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14**  
Art Young, Socialist candidate for Board of Control in recent municipal elections will give a talk on 'THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN CHINA', Founders Social and Debates Room, 1:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15**  
POETRY READING by Diane di Prima, New York and Bill Bissett, Vancouver, Basement Coffee Shop of York Hall, Glendon Campus, 8:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16**  
Judi Olenuck, chairman of the U. of T. Committee to End the War in Vietnam will talk on 'VIETNAM AND WORLD POLITICS', Vanier Social and Debates Room, 1:00 p.m.

**YORK UNIVERSITY CENTENNIAL PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16**  
Panel on ART IN CANADA, 8:00 p.m.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17**  
LEONARD COHEN sings and The City Muffin Boys, 8:00 p.m.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18**  
Zbigniew Blazeje, paintings; Brian Browne Trio, poets; Michael Collie, Keith Harrison, Joe Rosenblatt, 2:00 p.m.

**ORIGINAL YORK REVIEW**, 8:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19**  
CANADIAN UNDERGROUND FILMS, 2:00 p.m.

All takes place at Burton Auditorium, York Campus, Complete Series Tickets: \$10.00, Students: \$2.50, Box Office: 635-2370

**YEARBOOK--LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

The 'Ex Libris', that is, the literary, section of the YEARBOOK needs the support of all York's literary buffs, genius or otherwise. All contributions will be given equal consideration, and the best used to make this section the best ever.

Envelopes for contributions will be placed outside Founders Council office and outside the Vandoor-Yearbook office.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15**  
A RECRUITING MEETING FOR FRONTIER COLLEGE, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m., Music Room, Hart House, University of Toronto Campus, Come out if you want a summer of hard work and the rewards of teaching fellow laborers.

## Cinema Comments

### Blowup

by Frank Liebeck

Without a doubt, 'Blowup' at the Towne Cinema evokes a greater series of reactions than any film that has ever been made. The point of the movie comes exactly at the end, and at first you really don't know what to do with it. You pound the turf, and scream 'Cheat' but that doesn't help. Then you settle back, and like fog oozing through a city, the director's point of view infiltrates your mind, and you understand it. And once you've reached this stage of the game, you'll either want to hide or see 'Blowup' again.

The actors are really irrelevant. The man who makes the movie is the director, Michelangelo Antonioni. It is difficult to relate his idea without giving away the ending, but a good noncommittal explanation would be the absurdity of involvement. Something is only there as long as your mind perceives it, and this usually occurs by accident. Does everyone see the bullet holes on Snoopy's dog house?

You will never in your life, and I guarantee this, feel a greater fascination than you do after experiencing this man's ending. It's almost criminal the effect it has on you. And if your intellect is completely frozen, you will enjoy the two teeny-boppers tearing each other's clothes off.

### The Quiller Memorandum

by Dave Warga

I found this movie to be in the semi-realist tradition, (enough already with the intellectualism!) You know the type,--straight from the make-believe files of the C.I.A. The hero doesn't get the girl, (how is that for realism?) and when the story is over he just fades out (which you have seriously considered doing for the past hour!)

Filmed on location in Germany has also contributed to the realism and colour of the movie and with the exception of a few scenes there is very little that can be said in its favour.

Now you are going to want to know what it is all about. Well... I am not certain. George Segal portrays his usual boyish charms in the guise of a Secret Agent. Sexy Senta Berger is a frustrated school teacher. Multy-faceted Alec Guinness plays a top banana, and Max Von Sydow (formerly Jesus Christ) plays a blue-eyed, blonde-haired Neo-Nazi. It may be topical but it is certainly a step down for some big-name artists.

Don't see this one! You'll see it on television soon enough.

### Gambit

by Anita Levine

While standing in line, freezing to death, at the Towne Cinema, I decided to hell with 'Blow-Up'. The line for 'Gambit' at the Uptown was suspiciously short but the idea of warmth and Michael Caine, too was overwhelming so I took my chances.

'Gambit' turned out to be a strictly non-think Hollywood type movie but very enjoyable--maybe because my brain was frozen but probably because of its rapid pace and oriental settings.

The plot revolves around Michael Caine as a thief, Shirley MacLaine as his accomplice, and Herbert Lom as the richest man in the world who, naturally, has a love for objets d'art and women resembling his late wife. Funny thing--when Shirley is made up right, she looks just like....(I hate reviewers who give the whole plot away so you can figure out the rest.)

The emphasis in this film is on action and dialogue is kept at a minimum. Thank heavens. The two major stars are capable actors, but really don't seem too interested in the art-theft game. Their boredom is contagious, because I found myself yawning in a few of the 'suspense' sequences, but there are a few times when the entire audience was holding its breath.

Humour is an essential element of the movie, i.e., nothing goes according to plan. Caine, the instigator, bumbles his impersonation of a British lord, the magnate turns out to be shrewd instead of vulnerable, the art treasure marked for theft is guarded like Fort Knox, and Shirley MacLaine is forced to save the day when she was supposed to be on the plane to Hong Kong.

Confused? 'Gambit' on the whole is very entertaining and definitely not an 'art' movie. Just the thing for anyone sick of figuring out symbolism.

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policemen. Hopefully they will heed his words. Otherwise the entire purpose of the festival will be obscured under a barrage of adverse publicity.

One final word, now that you are all excited about going to Perception '67--all 2540 tickets have been sold, so if you don't already have one, watch Excalibur next week for a full report on what's happening, baby.

### EXCALIBUR SUGGESTS

**Blow Up-** This exciting suspense film is the first English offering of Michaelangelo Antonioni. Try to see this at the Towne Cinema. Loves of a Blonde- Don't miss this movie, now playing at The New Yorker Cinema.

**A Man for All Seasons-** An American masterpiece is being shown at the Odeon Fairlawn.

**Doctor Zhivago-** An excellent character study of a man torn between two women is showing at the Nortown.

Other worthwhile movies playing in Toronto now are Loving Couples, Alfie, Hawaii, Georgy Girl, Gambit, and Kanal.

**Stage**  
Unfortunately Toronto doesn't offer much for the avid theatre goer this week, but don't miss The Right Honourable Gentleman at the Central Library Theatre.

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