

Subdued violence perverts romance

Margot Griffiths

Films often lose a great deal in a transition from book to screen, but Yukio Mishima's celebrated novel, *The Sailor Who Fell From Grace With The Sea*, seems to have succeeded in such a transition, despite a few flaws.

Set in Devonshire, England, the film revolves around a love affair between a lonely, young widow and a disillusioned sailor. The plot is eventually eclipsed by a sub-plot of evil, which results from her son's involvement in a secret cult, and ultimately succeeds in destroying them.

Sarah Miles gives an amazing performance as the widow, Ann Osborne, rendering a credibility and clear definition to the character which succeeds despite a rather weak plot. The incredi-

ble emotion which she conveys with mere facial expression is one example of her superior acting ability. She far surpasses Kris Kristofferson's wooden portrayal of Jim Cameron, the sailor.

Her outstanding performance helps carry the entire movie over its weaknesses. Kristofferson, on the other hand, seems to have only his appearance to carry him through, for his dull monotone is totally unemotional and unconvincing.

The crux of the plot is the subliminal current of violence and evil which pervades the rather corny relationship be-

tween Osborne and Cameron. The evil emerges in the form of a secret club among some young boys, led by a demented young lad called "The Chief".

He inspires his cohorts to acts of ritualistic violence in order to preserve the perfect order of the universe. Ideally, the concept is an effective and valid one, and the film does succeed in conveying the horror and the evil, particularly in such gruesome scenes as the dissection of the cat. But I felt that the supposed age of the boys was a definite flaw to the credibility of the situation. It is difficult

to believe that even an unusually bright twelve year old could mastermind such a murder, nor could he be capable of the complicated emotions or ideas behind the killing. But despite this limitation, the film does succeed in creating a sense of evil. The scene in the greenhouse of the ritual with the cat was very effective, conveying overtones of Golding's *Lord Of The Flies*.

The only other weakness is the plot. The romance between Cameron and Osborne, and their ultimate marriage, seems a bit unlikely given so short a time. But this may be intentionally designed to il-

lustrate that their relationship was based on need rather than love, a fact which seems to be supported by the extremely long bedroom scenes.

On the whole, the film was well done. The cinematography was excellent and effects such as the juxtaposition of the couple's wedding preparations with the boys' preparations for the murder, create a highly successful effect of horror. The ending was subtle, yet it left the audience with the bitter taste of violence and evil which subsists despite our efforts to deny it, an effect which attests to the film's success.

1755

by Eleanor Austin

For those interested in television, you should have seen the Tuesday evening concert of 1755 at Queen Elizabeth High School. It was a rewarding experience for those who did not mind sitting through a few "re-takes, voice overs and cued-clapping".

The minute you sat down you immediately became part of the fun and frolics and yes, the pains of television filming. However, a few technical difficulties did not disturb the crowd's dynamic energy and appreciation shown for the group.

The 3½ hour show demonstrated the band's musical versatility. They sang in French and English playing some blue-grass, folk, blues, rock, rag-time, disco and easy-listening music. All brought to you by the CBC and Cape Breton Cement Co.

The show was broken into a three-part serial (each with a special guest star) with 10 minute breaks in between each for a change in clothing (so the T.V. viewers won't know it was all filmed on the same night!).

The music was great although perhaps a bit disappointing for those who expected only to hear their familiar "hand clapping and foot stomping" French music. Lead singer Pierre Robichaud said if this show works, they may do more for the television.

Actually Robichaud said the group started to sing in English in the smaller bars in Moncton, N.B. and gradually they added the French music to their repertoire. They adapt their music to the listening audience and since this was for English T.V. they sang mostly in English.

If you didn't get the chance to see 1755 (thank heavens for T.V.) then catch them on the three part special in the fall on the CBC television station. I guarantee you'll clap just as hard as we did!



Sometimes a great notion needs help getting in motion.

Does your organization qualify?

Established, non-profit organizations and local governments may qualify to receive financial assistance to hire students.

What projects should you consider?

To qualify, projects should employ at least three students for six to 18 weeks between the 5th of May and the 5th of September. Proposals must be of benefit to student participants and should be of lasting value to the community.

What students will be employed?

Post-secondary or secondary students intending to return to school in the fall, who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents are eligible. Students interested in working on a qualified project should register at Canada Employment Centres or at Canada Employment Centres for Students.

IF YOUR ORGANIZATION HAS A PROJECT WORTH DOING THIS SUMMER, THE SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM WILL HELP PAY FOR STUDENTS TO HELP GET IT DONE.

The Summer Youth Employment Program will make a contribution towards wages at the level of the provincial minimum wage. In addition, the Program contributes employee benefits and up to \$20. per person per week to cover project overhead costs.

Where do you go from here?

Information and project proposal application forms are available at Canada Employment Centres or Employment Development Branch offices.

Deadline for project proposals is March 28.

To receive financial assistance to hire students, proposals must be submitted (post-marked) no later than March 28. Of course, it is to your organization's advantage to submit its application as early as possible, but March 28 is the final deadline. Now's the time to get that summer project off the ground.



Employment and Immigration Canada

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Canada

TOGETHER WE CAN DO IT THIS SUMMER