

# arts

The only things missing are the commercials

## Maybe next time for Alda

**The Same Time Next Year**  
Directed by Robert Mulligan  
Movie review by Dave Samuel

*The Same Time Next Year* might turn up some time next year as a TV sitcom. It's the story of two happily married people who meet one another once a year at the same time and place to commit adultery. They manage to turn it into an activity about as sexually charged as a night out bowling or playing bingo.

*The Same Time Next Year* would adapt well to TV because, although there is just a hint of pasteurized, prepackaged, denatured titillation, it should be totally safe for viewing by maiden aunts in Dead Dog, Texas or Three Hills, Alberta. You could keep adulterer Alan Alda in his present role and replace adulteress Ellen Burstyn with someone more suited to TV - a Sally Fields type. As a TV show it could hop on the nostalgia bandwagon in a big way. As the pair meet for their dose of plastic sin they move through every era from post-War to early seventies. It wouldn't matter that the representations of the dress and ideas of each period are ridiculously shallow because the legendary twelve-year-old mentality of the viewer would be confused by anything more complex. The show's profusion of one-liners would transfer well too, and there is no overriding theme to get in the way and be broken up by commercials.

As a movie, however, *The Same Time Next Year*

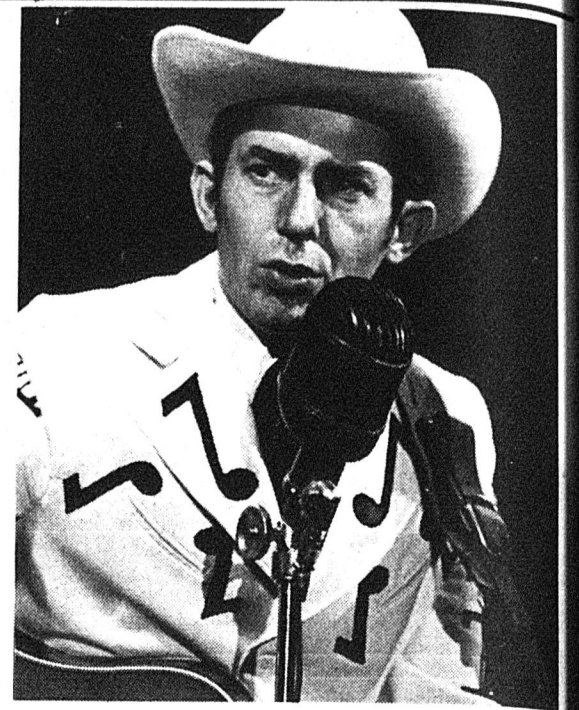
is an excruciating bore. It's virtually a filmed play, with no adaptation to the big screen. The camera must have been bolted to the floor. There's an irritating soft focus throughout which could have been intended for romantic effect, or to hide Ellen Burstyn's wrinkles.

The acting is so abysmal that it deserves special attention. Since the camera is focussed on the two principals for the entire film, it's easy to see where a great deal is demanded from them. Frankly I suspect that if one could have thrown Marlene Dietrich and Marlon Brando together in their respective primes they would have had trouble with this one.

With Alan Alda there's no chance of him being able to carry it off. He's as sexless as a overgrown boy scout, so there's no aura of sexual attraction between him and Burstyn, and there's something adolescent about his demeanor all through the picture. Every line is a wisecrack. Alda seems incapable of simulating the changes of gesture and carriage that go with aging. Seeing him in *The Same Time Next Year* it is hard to believe that he has any acting skills at all.

Ellen Burstyn is better than Alda, partly because she doesn't overplay her role to the same degree. She has acted well enough in other roles that I can forgive, and hopefully forget, this one.

It seems obvious then, that rather than miss a night of *Mork and Mindy* or *Laverne and Shirley* the canny viewer should remain planted in his living room and wait for *The Same Time Next Year* to come to him, as it or its imitators certainly will.



Sneezey Waters, adopting the persona of Hank Williams in "Hank Williams, The Show He Never Gave."

## Honky-Tonkin'

A guide to what's going down

### MUSIC

#### South-Side Folk Club

The Club presents a concert with Ron Nolan from Calgary, who will perform British traditional and contemporary music, and Derek Elliot from Edmonton. The show will be held in the Orange Hall, 104 St. and 84 Ave. on Saturday at 8 pm. Tickets are \$3.00 for members and guests. For ticket reservations, call 473-1042.

#### Latitude 53

Tonight, (Friday), and Saturday at 2:30 pm, U of A graduate Jan Randall will perform at Latitude 53. Randall will present original and favorite songs with jazz overtones. Tickets are \$2.50 for members and \$3.00 for non-members.

#### Theatre Network

At the Princess Theatre on Whyte Avenue, Sneezey Waters and band will present *Hank Williams, The Show He Never Gave*. A lasting and well-received tribute to the music and influence of the late Hank Williams, the show attempts to create the New Year concert Williams was en route to give when he was killed. The show runs from February 20 to 25, with performances at 8:30 pm.

### FILM

#### National Film Theatre

On February 16 at 7:30 and 9:35 pm and on February 18 at 8 pm. NFT presents the Japanese film *Sunna No Onna*, ("Woman of the Dunes"). The 1960 film was directed by Hiroshi Teshigahara. NFT operates out of the Citadel's Ziegler Hall.

#### Cinematheque

Friday night, Cinematheque will show Elia Kazan's 1952 film, *Viva Zapata*, starring Marlon Brando, Anthony Quinn and Jean Peters. The presentation is part of the society's Brando series. Next Thursday and Friday, they will show *The Ugly American*. All films are shown in the theatre of the Edmonton Art Gallery. Shows are at 7:30 pm.

### THEATRE

#### Northern Light Theatre

Northern Light has held over its production of James DeFelice's *Take Me Where the Water's Warm* until February 25. This excellent local production has received rave reviews from the *Sun*, *The Edmonton Report*, CBC Radio and CKUA. The tickets are available at the HUB Box Office as well as at Northern Light Theatre.

#### Edmonton Public Library

The Alberta Little Theatre will present the comedy *The Monkey Walk* in the Centennial Library Theatre this weekend, at 8 pm Friday and Saturday. The play stars Brad Morris and Anne Mansfield. Tickets can be obtained at Woodward's and at the door.

### ART & EXHIBITS

#### SUB Art Gallery

The Gallery has just opened an exhibit of the works of fabric artists Jane Thomas and Carol Sabiston. It's a different kind of exhibit that runs until March 4. Gallery hours are 11 to 5 weekdays and 1 to 5 on weekends.

#### U of A Art Gallery

The Department of Germanic Languages continues its exhibition of photographs and books on contemporary Germany in the Art Gallery Ring House, Number 1, until Wednesday, February 28.



A hit with "Love School" ... A No. 1 single in Guatemala ... A debut album recorded at Vancouver's Mushroom studios ... Canadian rock at its finest ... Crowcuss this Saturday in Dinwoodie.

## Arts Calendar

Fri. Feb. 16, 5 pm — Flute Recital by Liane Gayler. At 8 pm — Two-Piano Recital featuring students of Helmut Brauss. Both being held at Con Hall (old Arts Bldg).

Sat. Feb. 17, 8 pm — University of Alberta String Quartet at Con Hall.

Sun. Feb. 18, 8 pm — U of A Concert Choir at Con Hall.

Mon. Feb. 19, 8 pm — Masters Cello Recital by Joanne Ludbrooke at Con Hall. Also at 8 pm — Stage Band Concert in RATT

## Arts quiz

Answers page 11

### CANADIAN ROCK

- The Collectors' album *Grass and Wild Strawberries* provided the music for what Canadian drama? (a) *Hosanna!* (b) *The Ecstasy of Rita Joe* (c) *The Whiteoaks of Jalna* (d) *Touched*.
- Which of the following was not a hit single for the Guess Who? (a) "No Time" (b) "Albert Flasher" (c) "When Friends Fall Out" (d) "Hand Me Down World".
- The original name of the Five Man Electrical Band was: (a) The Staccatos (b) The Unholy Rollers (c) The Maples (d) Strawberry Sundae
- Everyone knows that Skip Prokop was the drummer for Lighthouse. What band did he play with before Lighthouse? (a) Five Man Electrical Band (b) Southbound Freeway (c) The Poppers (d) The Paupers

- Which member of the Band is not Canadian? (a) Levon Helm (b) Rick Danko (c) Robbie Robertson (d) Richard Manuel.
- Neil Young's father is a Toronto: (a) alderman (b) sports columnist (c) dentist (d) musician.
- Who was the Canadian member of the Lovin' Spoonful? (a) John Sebastian (b) Claire Lawrence (c) Joe Hall (d) Zal Yanovsky
- What was the real name of Syrinx's theme song to *Here Come the Seventies*? (a) "Tillicum" (b) "I Must Have Been Blind" (c) "Moon Lament" (d) "A Possible Projection Into the Future"
- How did Anne Murray meet her husband? (a) In a singles bar (b) He was the producer of *Singalong Jubilee* (c) He wrote "Snowbird" (d) He was her childhood boyfriend.
- What Toronto band did Neil Young play with before joining Buffalo Springfield? (a) The Jokers (b) The Poppers (c) The Mynah Birds (d) He only played solo.