

Nostalgia Helps Show

By Pat Costa



The sight of an industry congratulating itself is seldom gratifying. Even less so when the ceremony takes on all the trappings of an extravaganza. But in spite of years of watching the worst entertainment industry has to offer (Emmy, Oscar, Grammy and Tony Awards) we always seem to come back for more.

The most recent of these, the awarding of the Tonys on a recent Sunday was not much different from what has gone on before, at least not in the area of presentation and acceptance.

There was one saving grace: the fact that it was the 25th anniversary of the Tony Awards and the industry chose to mark it with highlights from the past quarter century's outstanding musicals and their stars.

Thus when the acceptance speeches tended to get too long, as they always do, or too sticky, as they sometimes do, there was the prospect before the viewer of another spectacular performance, some of them show stoppers, just ahead.

Watching and listening to Alfred Drake singing "Where Is the Life that Late I Led" from

"Kiss Me Kate" and "Olive Tree" from "Kismet" was worth the price of some Broadway tickets alone. Ditto for Yul Brynner and Patricia Morrison doing "Shall We Dance" from "The King and I".

Hosts were Lauren Bacall, Angela Lansbury, Anthony Quinn and Anthony Quayle.

Watching the acceptance speeches by celebrities who must appear minus the fantasies created for them by playwrights is usually a sobering experience. Most of them find it difficult to show the same style and grace. Brian Bedford, winning for his performance in the adaptation of Moliere's "School for Wives," was the exception.

Sheldon Leonard's new comedy offering, "From a Bird's Eye View" which debuted last Monday in the 7:30 time slot on NBC does not look like it is anything to write home about—at least not yet.

The series which recounts the misadventures of two airline stewardesses has a cast made up of English actors with the exception of one American. It is produced in England.



A scene from Francois Truffaut's award-winning *The Wild Child*, starring Jean-Pierre Cargol as the boy and Paul Ville as his mentor and teacher. (RNS)

'Best Film' Awards

Catholic and Protestant-Orthodox film agencies named "Kes" and "I Never Sang for My Father" as the best movies of the year. Over national television a merit award was also presented to the young film producer John Korty for "river-run," his most recent movie.

Hugh Downs of the "Today" show was host for the presentations Sunday, March 28. Father Patrick Sullivan, S.J., made the awards for the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures, and Robert E. A. Lee represented the Broadcasting and Film Commission of the National Council of Churches. NCOMP picked out "The Wild Child" and "My Night at Maud's" for separate awards.

Ken Loach's "Kes" tells of a divorcee's frail son plagued by a priggish older brother and how the boy learns of freedom by training his "kes," or falcon, as Americans would call it. "I Never Sang for My Father," directed by Gilbert Cates, adapts Robert Anderson's play about "filial alienation and love."

John Korty was recognized for his special "sensitivity to the inner needs of modern man." NCOMP praised "The Wild Child" for its study of

the education process as a primary means for humanizing man. "Wild Child" recounts one man's attempt to educate a boy found living wild in the woods.

The joint citations have been made for five years, but this was the first time they had been awarded on national television.

Honor Society Ceremony Held

Dr. Daniel Healy, superintendent of East Irondequoit schools, addressed Bishop Kearney High School honor students on their induction into the National Honor Society March 30.

He challenged students to ask themselves "What am I doing?" and "Why am I doing it?" Only by honestly seeking out answers to these questions can real education be acquired, he said.

Twenty-seven members of the senior class received membership pins and certificates. Twenty students from the junior class also were honored at the evening ceremony.

At Home with the Movies

WHO'S MINDING THE STORE? (1963)

Thursday, April 8 (CBS)

If you like Jerry Lewis comedy, this will fill your order. Lewis is loose in a department store, where he tries to sell shoes to a fat lady wrestler, and where a large vacuum sweeper gets out of control.

Critics felt that the story-line got out of control—the mother of Jerry's sweetheart (Jill St. John) got him the job to get him out of her daughter's life—but scripts don't mean much in Lewis films.

NCOMP rated this film A-1, unobjectionable for all.

TARZAN AND THE GREAT RIVER (1967)

Friday, April 9 (CBS)

The setting is Brazil—where viewers will be intrigued to see African lions roaming around—and the Tarzan this time is Mike Henry in a loose story about "jeopard people" who make life tough for villagers along the Amazon, until Tarzan and his ape show up.

Former Decathlon champ Rafer Johnson plays the bad guy—the old Negro stereotype. One plus is the beautiful Brazilian scenery.

NCOMP rated this one A-1, unobjectionable for all.

ROBBERY (1967)

Saturday, April 10 (NBC)

Another taut, "big heist" film, details the recruiting of the "team," the blueprint, the theft and, as expected, the little slip-up that foils the criminals.

This is a summary and evaluation of prime-time films offered by the network to its affiliate stations. Check your local listings to ascertain if your channel is scheduling the network offering.

Stanley Baker stars in this British film, the kind that used to "glorify crime and the criminals," in the terminology of the old Legion of Decency pledge.

NCOMP rated this A-2, unobjectionable for adults and adolescents.

WALK, DON'T RUN (1966)

Sunday, April 11 (ABC)

A slick adult comedy, starring Cary Grant in a remake of *The More the Merrier*. This one's set in Tokyo during the Olympics. Grant moves in with a young athlete (Jim Hutton) and plays Cupid for Hutton and their pretty landlady.

NCOMP rated this A-3, unobjectionable for adults.

'Dialogue or Die' Cana Program Set

"Dialogue or Die," a program designed to improve couples' communications on feelings and sex, will be presented by the Office of Family Life at the Canale Retreat House, Rochester, on Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m., April 28 and May 5.

Father Robert Collins, director of Family Life, said he

Monday, April 12 (ABC)

The usual Monday night movie is expected to be preempted by an NBA basketball championship game.

DEATH OF A GUNFIGHTER (1969)

Tuesday, April 13 (NBC)

This off-beat Western is neither for children—or people who like to remember the Old West "the way it was."

Richard Widmark plays a competent sheriff who refuses to resign just because the city council finds him an embarrassment when the town fathers want to lure industry to their "modern" town. He knows too much about the personal lives of the councilmen, so he can't be pressured to leave. They hire a gunman to kill him.

The film got fair reviews—probably because several directors had a hand in it. NCOMP found it "only fitfully successful either as a Western or a social document" and rated it A-3, for adults.

(Catholic Press Features)

hopes all "graduates" of his office's Pre-Cana Conferences during the past year will be able to attend.

Father Collins also said that pre-registration is necessary to attend the program and that inquiries should be mailed to his office at 401 Orange St., Rochester, 14611.



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