

Portrait of the director makes for tedious film

NEW YORK (CNS) — Clint Eastwood re-creates the fact-based story of director John Huston's hunting obsession while preparing to film "The African Queen," in "White Hunter, Black Heart" (Warner Bros.).

Flamboyant and debt-ridden director John Wilson (Eastwood) agrees to shoot a film in Africa not only to avoid financial ruin, but also to get in some big-game hunting.

He persuades his friend Pete (Jeff Fahey) to accompany him and collaborate on the screenplay. Once there, however, Wilson refuses to focus on anything but the prospect of bagging a huge male elephant or as he puts it, "a big tusker."

When Pete, exasperated by Wilson's egotistical and irresponsible behavior, suggests it's a crime to kill such a rare animal, Wilson arrogantly explains, "It's more than a crime — it's a sin — and that's why I want to do it."

Fed up with Wilson's obsession, Pete is ready to pack it in when the worried producer (George Dzundza) and cast arrive, expecting to begin their shoot. Playing the consummate host, Wilson attempts to charm them at a welcoming dinner, but next morning he sets off on safari.

Only his final, tragic confrontation with the targeted elephant forces the director to reconsider the enormity of his ego and open his eyes to the business at hand.



Warner Bros. Inc.
Producer Paul Landers (George Dzundza) confronts director John Wilson (Clint Eastwood) about production delays caused by Wilson's obsession with hunting an elephant in "White Hunter, Black Heart," a Malpas-Rastar production for Warner Bros. release.

Considering the near-legendary reputation of the real-life director as a man of immense passion, producer, star and director Eastwood has created a curiously uninvolved film.

His pointed imitation of Huston's distinctive vocal mannerisms is unnerving and prevents one from appreciating Eastwood's self-assured performance. It doesn't help either that this central character is so unappealing. Several scenes are reduced to talking heads, including those in which the Wilson character pulverizes everyone in sight with sharply barbed insults.

The film's main problem is its wafer-thin story — man wants to shoot elephant, not movie. Since Wilson doesn't care about shooting his film, viewers may ultimately feel just as blasé about watching his story.

The authentic Zimbabwe landscapes and wildlife are outstanding, however. Also, Dzundza captures the stereotype of the blustery movie producer while managing to give the role some bite.

This unflattering portrait of an utterly selfish individual may be psychologically intriguing, but it is rarely entertaining.

Because of a minimum of vulgar expressions, the U.S. Catholic Conference classification is A-II — adults and adolescents. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is PG — parental guidance suggested.

Dining Around the Diocese

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 Avon, NY 14414
 (716) 226-8181

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Big Apple Cafe
 682 Park Avenue
 271-1039

A European cafe atmosphere greets you at the Big Apple Cafe, a comfortable fun place to dine. Located in the chic Park Avenue area, the Big Apple offers foods that are prepared fresh daily. Enjoy outdoor dining this spring and summer. Open menu all day. On Sundays, stop by after mass for a sumptuous brunch, from omelettes to french toast. Hours: 11a.m. to 11p.m. weekdays, Friday and Saturday from 11a.m. to midnight, Sunday 11a.m. to 10p.m.

Cannon's
 1551 Mt. Hope Ave.
 (1 minute north of W. Henrietta Rd.
 exit off Rte. 390)
 (716) 461-1026

A Rochester favorite for 23 years, featuring a diverse menu including seafood, steaks, chops, veal, and Italian dishes. Dinners served Sunday, 4:30pm - 11:00pm; Monday - Thursday, 4:30 - midnight; Friday and Saturday, 4:30pm - 1:00am. Bar opens daily at 4:00pm.

Cerame's Italian Villa
 3450 Winton Place
 427-7350

Family-owned and operated in Brighton for over 20 years, Cerame's offers fine cuisine at reasonable prices. Menu includes Italian specialties, as well as seafood, steak, and a tasty haddock fish fry on Fridays. Lunch is served Mon. - Fri.; Dinner, Tues. - Sat. Cerame's also offers catering services and boasts a new party room that's ideal for parties (office or family) bridal showers, retirement parties, etc.) Proprietors: Marilyn and Richard Cerame, members of St. Joseph's parish. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas day.

Conesus Inn
 2170 East Lake Road
 (Eastside of Beautiful
 Conesus Lake)
 (716) 346-6100

Open until Christmas, anytime is the perfect time to take a leisurely drive to the Conesus Inn. Located on Conesus Lake, the Conesus Inn serves dinner Tuesday through Saturday from 5 p.m. and Sundays beginning at 4 p.m. As always you'll find the same spectacular Prime Rib, Alaskan King Crab Legs and Australian Lobster Tail that you've come to expect and enjoy from the Conesus Inn. The beautiful surroundings and atmosphere of the Conesus Inn make an ideal spot for dinner. Whether it's an intimate evening for two or a large gathering of friends... the Conesus Inn has a perfect evening of dining waiting for you.

While you're there, remember to choose a fine wine from their extensive wine list. For an evening of splendid dining, visit the Conesus Inn soon... "For The Prime of Your Life." Just ten minutes from exit 9 off 390. Call today for reservations.

Crystal Barn
 Corner Clover & Jefferson
 at the Barn Bazaar in Pittsford
 (716) 381-4844

A pleasant blend of crystal chandeliers and Victorian motif set in an authentic country barn, creates a memorable atmosphere... for lunch, cocktails or an enjoyable dining experience. Your hosts George and Katherine Gerkos and Chef Russell Brindisi pride themselves in presenting you with the most carefully selected and prepared dinners as well as

unique special creations for each evening. We most sincerely hope that you'll find our quality uncompromising and our service unsurpassed. Reservations are appreciated.

Fornataro's
 2155 Long Pond Rd.
 (corner Long Pond &
 Spencerport Rds.)
 (716) 426-1240

Along the streets of Rome or in the Italian countryside, the word "trattoria" conjures up images of a family-like dining room just off a kitchen, fragrant with the rich aroma of simmering meat sauces, tomatoes and fresh peppers. Such could be a description of Fornataro's. Featuring Continental, Italian, American cuisine such as Salimbocca, Veal Frech, Fettucine Alfredo as well as traditional favorites like Steak Diane, Beef Wellington and others. Breads and pastas are homemade. Wines and liquors are used liberally in the cuisine as are atrichoke hearts and fruits. Lunch served Monday through Friday, dinner seven nights a week. Banquet and private party rooms are available.

The Holloway House
 Rt 5 & 20, E. Bloomfield
 1-657-7120

Enjoy the colonial surroundings of the historic Holloway House for birthdays, anniversaries or just plain dining out! Built in 1808 as a stagecoach stop, this restaurant (with a ★★★ Mobil Guide Rating) offers both a full-course and a-la-carte menu including turkey, steak & seafood. Round out your meal with their famous Sally Lunn Bread and homemade desserts. Enjoy the Saturday Prime Rib Special, or try the Early Dinner Specials from 12-3p.m. Sundays. Owned and operated by the Wayne Family for 30 years, they welcome you for lunch from 11:30A-2P or dinner from 5:30-8:30P. Sat. til 9p.m., Sun. 12-7:30p.m. Closed Mondays.



Irondequoit Town Lounge
 705 Titus Avenue
 (716) 342-3465

Serving lunches 11:30-3p.m. daily except Sunday. Featuring an Early Bird Special every night but Friday. Fish Frys every Friday. Our party room can accommodate up to 60 people for your next gathering. Clip out this ad and receive \$5.00 off two dinners (not valid on dinners under \$8.00), offer good Sunday thru Thursday, during the month of November. Please present ad when ordering.

Mr. Dominic's at the Lake
 4699 Lake Avenue
 (716) 865-4630

Noted for their fine Italian dinners that include 11 veal dishes and homemade pasta, Mr. Dominic's is now open for lunch. Early Bird dinner specials Sunday-Friday. Also offering 10% senior discount. Delivery is available for your luncheon group of ten or more. Lunch hours from 11a.m.-2p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Dinner hours Monday-Friday 4:00-9:30p.m., Saturday 5:00 - 10:00 p.m., Sunday 3:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**National Hotel
 Bed and Breakfast Inn**
 Rte. 20A & 39
 Cuylerville, NY 14481
 (716) 382-3130

Built in 1837, the 150 year old National Hotel is a landmark in and of itself. Open for lunches Tues. - Fri. 11:30 - 1:30, and serving dinner only, Tues.-Sat. 4:30-10p.m. and Sundays, 12-8p.m. A special Senior Citizen menu is featured nightly and Sunday. From Rochester, take 390 South to exit 8. The National Hotel Bed and Breakfast Inn is located on Rts. 20A & 39 in Cuylerville just 3 miles south of Genesee or 3 miles east of Letchworth State Park. Reservations are appreciated.