

CINEASTE, VOL. XLIII, NO. 4, FALL 2018



Lina Wertmüller

ARTICLES

The First Face: Finding Samuel Fuller in His Early Stories and Screenplays by Jeff Billington

Fade in on exposés of underworld gangsters and publishers slinging “fake news” in the early writing credits that preceded Fuller’s directorial debut.

4

Laughter in the Dark:

The Black Comedy of Lina Wertmüller by Darragh O’Donoghue

Fabulous then, near-forgotten now as she celebrates her ninetieth birthday—but new Blu-rays of key films reveal work that still tantalizes, whatever its shortcomings.

15

The Eclipsed Visions of Bill Gunn: An African-American Auteur’s Elusive Genius, from *Ganja & Hess* to *Personal Problems* by Steve Ryfle

The recent re-emergence of two of his long-dormant films, thanks to digital restorations and theatrical rereleases, has renewed interest in a singular body of work.

26

A Double Feature: Sam Fuller’s *The Steel Helmet* and Stanley Kubrick’s *Fear and Desire* by Marsha Gordon

Two dissimilar filmmakers “met” on the battlefield and found common ground in early career movies, both of which offered provocative views about war.

38

INTERVIEWS

The Sorcerer’s Apprentice:

An Interview with Leon Vitali and Tony Zierra by Rodney F. Hill

Filmmaker Tony Zierra and Leon Vitali, Stanley Kubrick’s right-hand man for more than two decades, speak about all things Kubrickian in *Filmworker*.

10

Revitalizing the Teen Movie:

An Interview with Desiree Akhavan by Andrew Northrop

The director of *The Miseducation of Cameron Post*, Grand Jury Prize winner at the Sundance Festival, explains how she disrupted the status quo in a familiar genre.

22

Thinking Her Own Thoughts:

An Interview with Debra Granik by Maria Garcia

The director of *Winter’s Bone* ventures deep into the woods once again and returns with *Leave No Trace*, a story of survival and sanctuary.

36

NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT WWW.CINEASTE.COM

The Other 1968s by Clarence Tsui.

Feminism and Iranian Cinema: An Interview with Narges Abyar by Ana Diamond.

Wake Up and Smell the Estrogen: An Interview with Bruce LaBruce by Richard Porton.

Film and Video Reviews: *Angels Wear White* reviewed by Lux Chen; *Digging the Spanish Earth* reviewed by Thomas Waugh; *No Down Payment* reviewed by David Sterritt.

Communiqués: International Short Film Festival Oberhausen by Jared Rapfogel; the Seattle International Film Festival by Dennis West; the Thessaloniki International Film Festival by Jonathan Murray.

Cover: John David Washington in the title role in Spike Lee’s *BlacKkKlansman* (photo by LaToya Ruby Frazier)

FILM REVIEWS

BlacKkKlansman

Reviewed by Herb Boyd.....41

The Rachel Divide

Reviewed by Mary F. Corey.....43

Wormwood

Reviewed by Declan McGrath.....45

Lean on Pete

Reviewed by J. E. Smyth.....47

Godard Mon Amour

Reviewed by Darragh O’Donoghue.....49

Scotty and the Secret

Reviewed by Matthew Hays.....52

Bobby Kennedy for President

Reviewed by Ian Scott.....53

HOME VIDEO REVIEWS

The Virgin Spring

Reviewed by David Neary.....56

Midnight Cowboy

Reviewed by Jonathan Kirshner.....58

Gun Crazy

Reviewed by Darragh O’Donoghue.....60

The Awful Truth

Reviewed by David Sterritt.....62

A Fistful of Dollars

Reviewed by Christopher Sharrett.....64

Annihilation

Reviewed by Rahul Hamid.....66

Staff Recommendations:

Forbidden Films: The Hidden Legacy of Nazi Films, Irma Vep, Model Shop, The Sacrifice, and Silence and Cry

Reviewed by Cineaste Editors.....68

BOOK REVIEWS

Show Trial:

Hollywood, HUAC, and the Birth of the Blacklist

Reviewed by Patrick McGilligan.....69

Nobody’s Girl Friday:

The Women Who Ran Hollywood

Reviewed by Imogen Sara Smith.....71

From the Third Eye:

The Evergreen Review Film Reader

Reviewed by David Sterritt.....72

Orson Welles in Focus:

Texts and Contexts

Reviewed by Jonathan Rosenbaum.....74

Jolted Images:

Unbound Analytic

Reviewed by Kamila Kuc.....75

People Only Die

of Love in the Movies:

Film Writing by Jim Ridley

Reviewed by Steve Erickson.....77

DEPARTMENTS

Editorial.....1

Letters.....3

Errata for *Cineaste*, Summer 2018.....60

Contributors.....78

Cineaste Subscription Ad.....79

Short Takes.....80