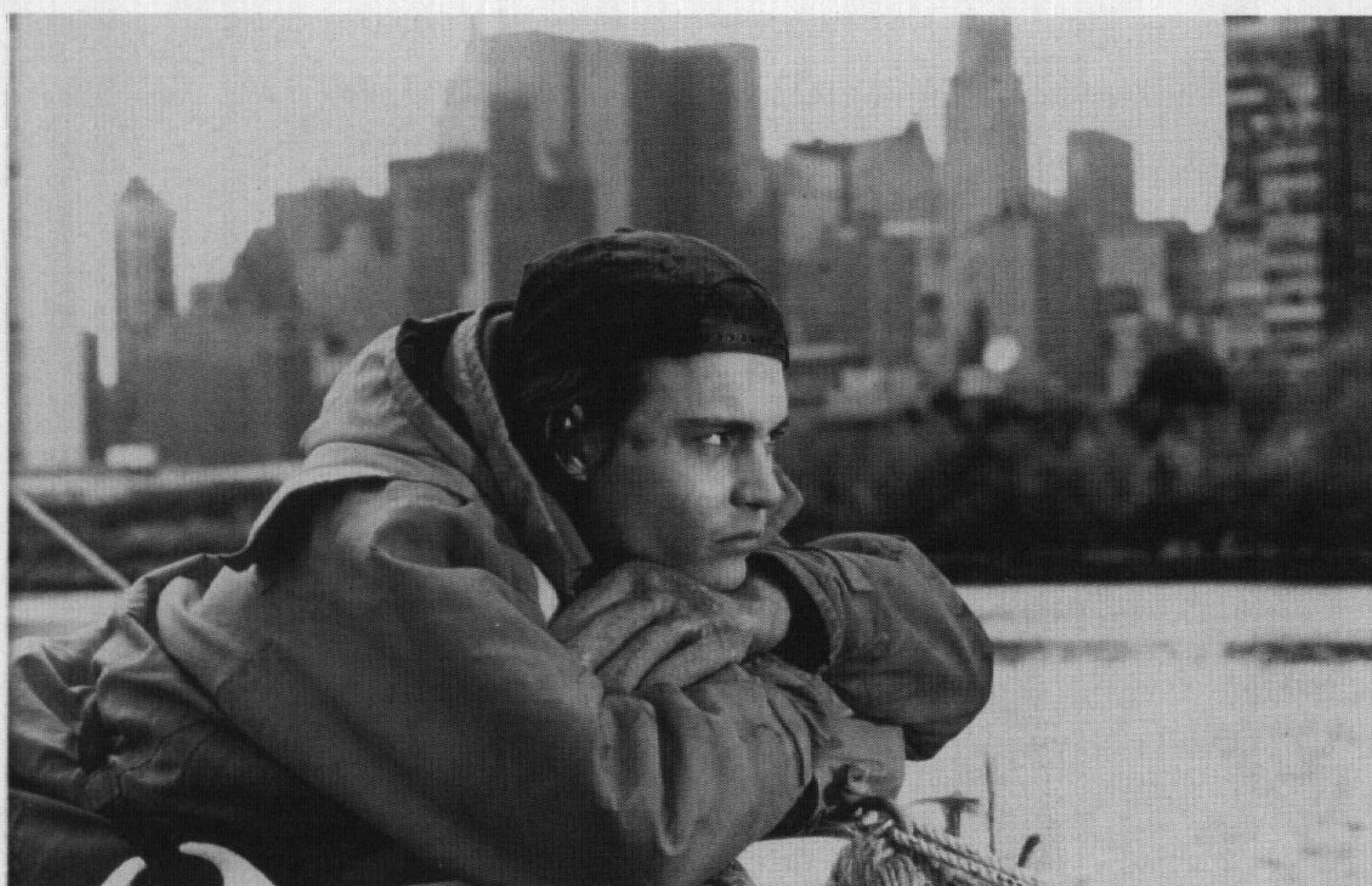


Document Citation

Title	Arizona dream
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Wellington Film Festival</i>
Date	1994 Jul 14
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	84
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Arizona dream, Kusturica, Emir, 1993

Late Confirmation MidCity Cinema, Thursday, July 14 at 6.00 p.m. & Embassy, Sunday, July 17 at 10.30 a.m.



Arizona Dream

France, 1992

Director: Emir Kusturica
Production Co.: Constellation/UGC/
Hachette Première
Producer: Claudie Ossard
Screenplay: David Atkins, Emir Kusturica
Photography: Vilko Filač (Color)
Editor: Andrija Zafranović
Production design: Miljen Kljaković
Sound: Vincent Arnardi
Music: Goran Bregović

140 minutes/stereo/35mm

Cast

Axel: Johnny Depp
Leo: Jerry Lewis
Elaine: Faye Dunaway
Grace: Lili Taylor
Millie: Paulina Porizkova
Paul: Vincent Gallo
Lindy: Tricia Leigh Fischer
Blanche: Candyce Mason
Fabian: Michael J. Pollard
Man with pumpkin: Iggy Pop

Festivals: Berlin (in competition), 1993. Hong Kong, Melbourne, 1994.

From Sarajevo to America, award winning director Emir Kusturica's (*When Father Was Away On Business*, *Time Of The Gypsies*) bizarre and unbridled imagination comes to grips with small-town USA mores and big-time ambitions. It all begins with an Inuit's vision of flying fish... Amateur ichthyologist and guileless, sexual innocent Axel (Johnny Depp) suspends his nature-worshipping job – counting fish for the New York Department of Game – and is persuaded to return to his Arizona hometown to attend the wedding of his slick Uncle Leo. Jerry Lewis revels in the role of the cradle snatching Cadillac dealer, whose Three S's of Sales are seduction, sex and psychology! Surreal visions of turtles, halibut and climbing to the moon on a stack of Caddies ensue as Axel becomes embroiled with the local lascivious, eccentric widow Stalker (played with strung-out panache by Faye Dunaway), who shares his passion for flight. Caught between Uncle Leo's plans for him to inherit the car dealership mantle and his own burgeoning lust for both Mrs Stalker and her equally pathological daughter Grace (Lili Taylor), Axel finds his life has taken a decidedly offbeat turn. Desires and dreams collide as Kusturica's camera flies with the caprices of his out-of-control characters and he has fun running the gamut of screen classics, from the inspired wit of the miming of the crop dusting scene from *North by Northwest*, to sideswipes at *Raging Bull* and *The Godfather Part II*. – Melbourne Film Festival

Feature Only

*23rd Wellington FF; 1994, 19⁸⁴