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"BURDEN OF DREAMS" T-SHIRT!!!

Burden of Dreams



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Dear Friends,

Yes, we are finally finished! Jack Kroll, in NEWSWEEK, called the final product "a remarkable film... that makes Hollywood moviemaking look like cutting out paper dolls". He saw it in Cannes where Les, Maureen and business manager took it in May to coincide with the showing of FITZCARRALDO at the Cannes Film Festival. After the FILMEX premiere, Kevin Thomas of the Los Angeles Times said BURDEN OF DREAMS is "the best film ever made on a filmmaker and filmmaking".

You can see for yourself on July 31 at the Pacific Film Archive, (642-1412). Also participating in this Bay Area premiere is the Mill Valley Film Festival, who will show the film sometime between August 5th and 11th. It will then open at the Surf Theater in San Francisco on August 11th or 13th, followed two weeks later by the Northside Theater in Berkley. On June 11th, at 9 p.m., a shorter version will air on PBS Channel 9, but missing many of what we feel are the best scenes. We're hoping the TV showing will whet viewers' appetites to go out to the theater showings, or at least tell all their friends and neighbors. It's definitely a film to be seen on the big screen.

July 30th. Garlic lovers can catch GARLIC IS AS GOOD AS TEN MOTHERS at the Unitarian Church Hall at Cedar and Bonita streets in Berkeley on Saturday, July 10th. For information, call us at 525-0942, or the Lovers of the Stinking Rose, 843-0330, who are co-sponsoring the event and providing a garlic feast with live music by the Bluegrass band Heartland as part of the week-long celebration of garlic and the French Revolution, in North Berkeley's Shattuck Ave. area.

The American Film Institute has given Les a modest grant to make his film on gap-teeth women---so all you gaps out there, let us here from you! Film Quarterly's Spring issue features an in-depth cover story on Les' films by Andrew Horton, head of Brooklyn College in New York. Another cover story is in the June issue of American Film, on the filming of FITZCARRALDO, written by the Bay Area's own Michael Goodwin, who also wrote the narration for BURDEN OF DREAMS.

It's now vacation time! Maureen stayed in Europe after Cannes and is visiting the Flamenco festivals in Spain, then on to Italy and France until the end of June. Les and Chris Simon will be in Australia and New Zealand, then on to Tahiti to celebrate Bastille Day. Susan Kell, who is now in charge of distribution, will be taking care of business while we're gone.

Have a pleasant summer.
We'll see you in August!

Les Blank

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