

## Document Citation

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Author(s)	Clyde Jeavons
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Wed 23 Nov



UNITED KINGDOM 1988

## American Roulette

2.30 8.30 NFT1

**Director: Maurice Hatton**

Production Company: Film Four International/British Screen/  
Mandemar Group/Maurice Hatton Films

Producer: Graham Easton

Screenplay: Maurice Hatton

Photography (Fujicolor): Tony Imi

British Distributor: Virgin Vision, 328 Kensal Rd, London W10 5XJ

Export Agent: Film Four International, 60 Charlotte St, London W1

Leading Players: Andy Garcia, Kitty Aldridge, Robert Stephens

Running Time: 102 mins

Festival: Montreal

An exciting political thriller with romantic overtones reminiscent of early Hitchcock, *American Roulette* implicitly poses the question just how seriously it is meant to be taken. On the one hand there is the earnest theme of third-world tyranny, while on the other one keeps encountering clownish characters like Robert Stephens's raddled, cake-eating secret-service chappie and a pair of thoroughly farcical KGB agents. Followers of director Maurice Hatton's unorthodox career will know the answer already, for this is Hatton at his most intriguing, entertaining and playful as he takes us on a chase through London in the company of Carlos, a cute, poetry-writing Latin American president-in-exile threatened with assassination, and his beautiful blonde minder. Nice-looking American star Andy Garcia plays Carlos charismatically, and newcomer Kitty Aldridge is cool and classy as his running-mate.—Clyde Jeavons.

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### UNUSUAL GROUND FLOOR CONVERSION

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UK 1988/Dir Mark Herman. With Adrian Dunbar

Well-judged sketch about an author with neighbour problems by a comedy director of promise. 11 mins.

London F.F. '88