

TABOO OPINIONS #94

By Richard E. Geis

rerwingeis@cs.com

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MOOM PITCHURS I SEEN LATELEE

I, LIBERTINE stars Johnny Depp back in pre-auto England, 17th Century, I think, and he plays the 2nd Earl of Rochester, an "immoral" man who used women, drank too much, and said politically and socially and religiously incorrect things to those in power, like the king. It cost him, big time.

Great acting, great writing, lots of integrity to the era (filth, sex, naked tits, filming seemingly with existing candle light, use of four-letter words including 'cunt').

Probably one of the finest films ever made, though I doubt it will get the recognition it deserves.

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS, made in 1951, features Gene Kelly in his prime, a dancer with amazing grace and style.

The movie is slow and at times boring and painful to watch during the formula-driven first two thirds (that opening 'buddy' routine with Georges Guetary and Oscar Levant is ghastly), but becomes immortal when Levant has his amazing piano playing fantasy and Kelly's spectacular 18-minute fantasy ballet earn the film 4 Academy Awards.

Kelly's early tap dancing numbers are a delight.

FOOTSTEPS IN THE DARK, made in 1941, uses a young, devilishly handsome Errol Flynn as a suave, afraid-of-his-wife-knowing banker who secretly writes best-selling murder mysteries and solves real murders as hobbies.

Brenda Marshall dutifully played his wife (and she had a fine set on her, I realize now), large and impressive Alan Hale played the police detective in charge of the murder case, and Allen Jenkins did his usual good job as Flynn's lower class personal assistant/driver/gofer.

Throughout, Flynn maintains an amused tolerance of everyone and everything. There was one sequence---when he *sprinted* up a looong staircase and never came close to a misstep---that spoke to his superb athletic ability and fine conditioning.

FOR A FEW DOLLARS MORE, one of Clint Eastwood's early westerns which made him a star, is long, slow, predictable, laughable in places, and a bore. Lee van Cleef, the rival bounty hunter, is more interesting.

A FEW SOCIO-POLITICAL-ECONOMIC NOTES

💣 Hilary Clinton said in a speech recently that if elected president she would not completely withdraw all U.S. forces from Iraq. She would keep some forces there to protect our 'interests' which includes the oil fields. Amazing. She has learned nothing. She shares the typical American subconscious belief that America owns the world---and everyone else is only renting. And thus we have the perfect right to go anywhere and do anything we want to anyone (as long as they are a small, apparently easily defeated country). Apparently we have not accepted the reality of our defeats in Vietnam and Afghanistan-Iraq in our heart of hearts.

💣 Jay Leno's opening monologs are getting more and more blue; the double entendres litter the landscape, and the studio and television audiences love them. I watch and enjoy, too, and hope the female guests show a lot of cleavage.

END TABOO OPINIONS #94