











PRANKENSTEIN



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CoF
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"PLANET OF THE APES"

20TH CENTURY-FOX PRESENTS AN UNUSUAL and important MOTION PICTURE FROM THE DEN

"THE bridge ON THE RIVER KWAI"

OF PIERRE DOULLE. AUTHOR OF THE DRIGGE CHARLTON HESTON



An amazing and wonderful thing is now happening. After an unforgiveable lull and snubbing from the film industry that's lasted several years, the world of fantasy and imagination is not only threatening domination but bids well to enrich theatrical boxoffices as never before (even at its strongest, SFantasy never received more than minor investment and approval, ever regarded as some weird offshoot of the industry, usually graded as product for eccentrics, youngsters, drive-ins and abnormal minds). Quite simply, they've come to regard the genre as a highly profitable commodity since the time FANTASTIC VOYAGE (see this issue's backover) garnered fantastic boxoffice results. But another im-

portant thing has also occured: For the last number of years a younger, better educated generation has been taking over the industry. Now, it's not only a matter of recognizing SFantasy as wonderful and profitable entertainment, but in reaching out for the best possible materials and making them available to the public, i.e. PLANET OF THE APES; Kubrick's 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY; DR.DOLITTLE; Ray. Bradbury's THE ILLUSTRATED MAN, starring Rod Steiger.

Shown on this and the next few pages, PLAN-ET OF THE APES is causing excitement on a grand scale among audiences and boxoffices, having broken all sales records at NYC's Capitol Theatre (sur-

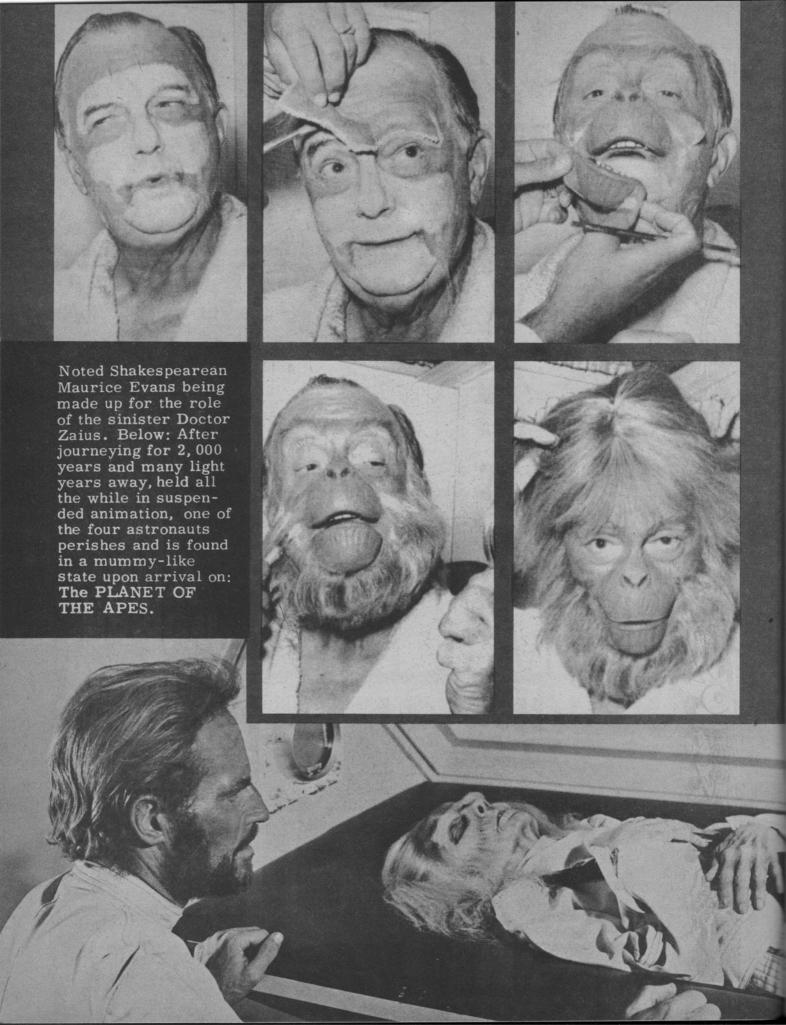


passing even DR. ZHIVAGO'S record there).

Usually studio blurbs attached to filmic exploitation are exaggerated and misleading; but the one reprinted intact at the top of this page is true to

the core. Having nearly total approval from the press hasn't been all, however—the dozens of word-of-mouth endorsements picked up by the CoF staff serve to back up our own feelings.





GUTURE GANTASY GILMS By Philip B. Moshcovitz

Horror fans can be very optimistic about future film production. More major studios are spending greater sums of money to enhance the quality and the image of horror and science fiction films. Heading the list is 20th Century Fox with PLANET OF THE APES starring Charlton Heston, based on a novel by Pierre Boulle. Heston said, "It's the first science fiction script I've read that has a meaty acting role." Rod Serling is writing the APES screenplay about astronauts in the 1970's who are on a long mission to outer space in search of a planet. A mishap in calculations about the relativity puts them off a couple of thousand years. They land on a planet which sustains life, but it is a civilization where Boulle's perspective makes a grotesque story. The roles of humans and apes are reversed. The humans are hunted in the woods, and the apes are the higher civilization. Baboons are at the bottom of the ladder with apes at the top. The unusuat ape makeup worn by most of the 235 actors warrants a tight security guard surrounding the film. Developed by chemists and makeup artists for over a year, the studio is not permitting any press photographs to be published until the picture is ready for release next Easter. Fox fears the makeup may be used as an exploitation gimmick, drawing serious attention away from the script. The studio is also guarding sketches and photographs of the simian city which its art department created over a two year period. Another producer could easily lift the idea from the \$5 million film and come out with a low-budgeted quickie. . . . Andrew Keir (2001: A Space Odyssey) will star with Barbara Shelley in QUATERMASS AND THE PIT, a Hammer production released by Fox. . Fox's biggest film this year is the \$15 million reserved seat DOCTOR DOLITTLE starring Rex Harrison, Samantha Eggar and Anthony Newley. It's a musical fantasy about a dactor who can speak some 400 animal languages. The animals include a Pushmi-Pulyu (double headed llama) and a Great Pink Sea Snail. Richard (Fantastic Voyage) Fleischer directs. . . . Fox will also release ANNIVERSARY, black comedy produced by Hammer. Bette Davis portrays a ruthlessly domineering mother who manages to keep a stranglehold on her three grown sons. . . . M-G-M's sf blockbuster is THE POWER starring George Hamilton, Suzanne Pleshette, Nehemiah Persoff, Michael Rennie, Yvonne De Carlo, Barbara Nichols, Gary Merrill, and Arthur O'Connell. Produced by George Pal from a novel by Frank R. Robinson, Hamilton stars as a strange character who combines the mad genius of Hitler, the superintelligence of a Da Vinci and a wild Hieronymus Bosch imagination. Pal consulted experts in neurology and psychiatry at USC and UCLA. He said a new cycle of science fiction pictures is underway. Since FAHRENHEIT 451 and Fantastic Voyage, audiences no longer will accept cheaply made sf films: "It's becoming increasingly more difficult to do this type of picture properly, because audiences have become more sophisticated and also because of the fast-advancing of technical expertise." Pal will pull a Hitchcock by making his first film appearance in THE POWER, his 13th film. He'll join extras reacting after Hamilton crashes his yellow

