

TV CANDIDS
by
Terrence O'Flaherty

The only breath of fresh air that is wafted outward from Hollywood these days comes from the workshop of Jay Ward and Bill Scott, producers of NBC's "Bullwinkle." This wild pair is busy on a new series titled "Fractured Flickers," which are re-edited silent-screen classics with added dialogue that makes them tell an entirely different story.

John Barrymore in "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" has now become an ad agency executive who has discovered a new chocolate drink. In "Blood and Sand," Rudolph Valentino is an insurance salesman, and Lon Chaney in "Hunchback of Notre Dame" is a UCLA cheerleader.

Ward has also brought to my attention the "Jay Ward Art Film Festival," a package of eight films guaranteed to put a little "zing" into the cultural atmosphere of any TV station that carries the series. The following films are available.

"Cincinnati, Mon Amour"—deeply moving story of the ill-fated romance of a Samoan cabdriver and an Eskimo mutual-fund salesman, starring Sabu and Vera Hruba Ralston.

"Marvin of Arabia," a blunt and honest account of a shy male hairdresser who became the toast of Baghdad when he introduced his "Turkish Cut."

"Gidget Goes Berserk," starring Merle Oberon as Gidget, the toast of two continents (Africa and Australia) who takes to sniffing airplane glue for kicks. According to Ward, the scene where she ransacks a hobby shop for more stuff is destined to become a screen classic.

"Divorce, American Style," a documentary starring Elizabeth Taylor (although she was probably not aware of it), filmed by a group of sneaky "paparazzi" during the "Cleopatra" unpleasantness.

"Last Year at Grossinger's," an abstract film with George Jessel.

"The Longest Day's Journey Into the Night of the Iguana," Tennessee Bubermin's drama of Bufferin addiction among natives of the Farallon Islands during the time of the Boxer Rebellion, with a tour-de-force performance by Bette Furness as Aimee Semple McPherson.

"Son of Phaedra" with Hermoine Gingold and Frankie Avalon.

I understand that all television stations are bidding for the series to run during the children's viewing hours—in case they run out of monster movies, that is.



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