

## Theater Review

### Hedgerow's 'Hollow'

#### A Murder Mystery

#### With Great Extras

By Angela Deal

In Hedgerow Theater's simulated garden room of Lord and Lady Angkatell's English country cottage, scenes from Agatha Christie's *The Hollow* come to life. The play, which Christie herself adapted from her novel *Murder After Hours*, contains a plot of intrigue, suspense and humor, captivating the audience into a realm of mystery. Members of the audience could not resist perusing the evidence, making mental notes and carefully observing each of the suspects from their seats.

The version of the play at Hedgerow Theater was an excellent production all around.

At a recent performance, each cast member successfully portrayed his/her character naturally and convincingly. The array of personalities was a mixture of promiscuity, innocence, nativity, senility and frustration among the characters.

Lady Angkatell's doting humor, Gerda Cristow's zealous devotion, Midge's girlish excitement, and John Cristow's arrogant philandering are but a few of the charming personalities to entertain the evening.

The atmosphere of the evening was cozy and alluring. The theater's old mill rock walls and rustic character, accompanied with an intermission of apples, pretzels, cookies, coffee and apple cider, became the epitome of an exceptional country playhouse.

To enhance the evening there was a "WHODUNNIT?" contest which allowed audience members to choose their murderer. The names of each of the successful detectives were put in a box. After the close of the last act a name was drawn and the winner received two complimentary tickets to a future performance.

Hedgerow Theater, with its quaint surroundings, is the perfect setting for a romantic evening or friendly rendezvous.

*The Hollow* will be playing through December 21, 1991. Tickets are \$10 on Thursdays, \$14 on Fridays, and \$16 on Saturdays. Ticket prices vary for each performance.

- CLASSIFIED AD -

For Sale: Complete set of four 16x8 Elite aluminum 5 Star, machine polished Mag wheels with mounted and balanced Goodyear Gatorback tires. Retail for \$1890; asking only \$800. Call 551-0599.



Whodunnit? A murder has been committed at an English country cottage . . . and everyone's a suspect in Agatha Christie's chilling mystery, *The Hollow*. Come enjoy the suspense and thrills of a classic whodunnit from the Queen of murder mysteries! *The Hollow* runs through December 21, with performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m.

Photo by: HEDGEROW THEATER

## Video Review

### 'Terminator 2: Judgment Day' — An Impressive Film

#### With Technical Effects And A Strong Moral Message

By James Doolittle

Like a runaway train roaring down a steep incline, James Cameron's "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" starts with a roar and never lets up. Easily the best film of its kind since "Raiders of the Lost Ark," "T2" is an instant action classic; a film that dares to go beyond anything done on film before and succeeds greatly on all levels.

"The Terminator," released in 1984, was a dark, brooding film about a killer cyborg sent back from the nuclear wasteland of 2029 A.D. to assassinate the mother of John Connor, the leader of the human resistance against the machines who have taken over the world in 2029. As effective as the first film was at straining the nerves of the audience, "T2" builds on the first and in the end is not only a better film, but a great one.

The key I think to both these films is Arnold Schwarzenegger, who reprises his role as the ultra-violent cyborg from the future. Schwarzenegger is as everyone knows one of the most popular figures of his time, but I think as an actor he is highly underrated. Truthfully, Schwarzenegger is not on the level as a Nicholson or a DeNiro, but all of his performances are so integral to his films. In "The Terminator," his presence and delivery was so frightening that it set the mood for the film. To a degree, he does that again in this film, with a twist.

In the future, the machines sent back two Terminator units in time; one that arrived in 1984 in the first film to strike at Connor's mother,

Sarah, before his birth and another sent back to 1991 to strike at John when he was a child. The masterstroke of this film is that Schwarzenegger is a good guy in the sequel, reprogrammed and sent back by John to protect himself in 1991 from the Terminator unit sent back by the machines.

After this plot is established, the film kicks in and never lets up; the film is essentially an enormously entertaining battle between Schwarzenegger's Terminator and the technologically advanced T-1000 over the young John Connor, played fiercely by newcomer Edward Furlong, whose goal is to break his mother out of a mental hospital where she was put after the incidents of the first film.

I was consistently overwhelmed by the lengths that this film went to with its glorious action sequences and stunning special effects. The film contains about five stunning action and chase sequences that contain some of the finest stunt work ever seen on film. Of course, with a \$100 million dollar budget, the special effects are mind-blowing, especially the T-1000. The T-1000 has the ability to change its shape and characteristics, and all of this is achieved with some of the most advanced special effects ever seen on film. The overall effect is stunning.

As impressive as this film is on the technical and action levels, "T2" also has a rather impressive moral message, especially for an action film of this caliber. As the film progresses, Schwarzenegger's Terminator finds a human side to his ice cold persona, and one of the

questions that this film asks is if a cyborg bent on violence can learn to value human life, why can't we as people do the same. It is an important and honest question that lies at the heart of this film.

All of the performances are on target. Schwarzenegger makes a near perfect transition from a killer to "a nicer killer." Robert Patrick is particularly slimy as the villainous T-1000, and Linda Hamilton, reprising her role from the original, is also in top form as a woman who has so much resting in her hands and finds herself overwhelmed by that fact.

Much of the credit, nearly all of it in fact, must be given to screenwriter/director James Cameron, who here announces himself as the best action/adventure director of his time. As in his previous films (*THE TERMINATOR*, *ALIENS*, *THE ABYSS*), Cameron creates a fever pitch not only with stunning action sequences, but through his well-written characters; we are able to identify with them in a way that makes the experience all the more vivid. The effect is staggering, and the result is fantastic.

1991 has not been a banner year for film. It's been a year where much hyped films such as "Robin Hood" and "Dying Young" fell below expectations, while smaller films like "Thelma and Louise" and "Boyz in the Hood" became surprising critical and commercial successes. "T2" however found the right combination of hype and success. Quite simply put it was, and still is, the best film of 1991.

DOOLITTLE RATING A+

## Hedgerow Presents

### Christmas In the Market Place

Strolling band of gypsy players perform the nativity story. This special Christmas play will run Sunday, December 1, 8, 15 and 22 (1991).

Two performances will be presented each day: 2:00 and 4:30 PM.

For information about tickets call 565-4211.