

Universal Sets Production, Release Schedules For 1969-70 Season

Universal's release program for the '69-'70 season has been announced by Milton R. Rackmil, president of Universal Pictures, following conclusion of the company's International Sales Conference. Twenty major feature productions are scheduled for next year's distribution with 13 other releases earmarked for the remainder of the current season.

Pictures on the '70 slate include three now in production, four in editing, and 12 scheduled for early placement before the cameras.

In production:

Ross Hunter's *Airport*, based on Arthur Hailey's best-selling novel, with an all-star cast headed by Burt Lancaster, Dean Martin, Jean Seberg, Jacqueline Bisset, George Kennedy, Helen Hayes, Van Heflin and Maureen Stapleton; directed by George Seaton from his own screenplay.

Martin Rackin's production of *Two Mules For Sister Sara*, adventure drama set in the 1870's, starring Clint Eastwood and Shirley MacLaine, filming in Mexico; produced by Martin Rackin and Carroll Case, directed by Don Siegel.

Change of Habit, starring Elvis Presley, Mary Tyler Moore and Barbara McNair; produced by Joe Connelly and directed by William Graham.

Editing:

Saul David's production of *Skullduggery*, anthropological adventure romance, starring Burt Reynolds, Susan Clark, Roger C. Carmel, Paul Hubschmid, Chips Rafferty, Alexander Knox and Pat Suzuki, shot on locations in Jamaica and New Guinea with Gordon Douglas directing.

The Joseph Janni production of *In Search of Gregory*, starring Julie Christie, Michael Sarrazin, John Hurt, Paola Pitagora and Adolfo Celi; directed by Peter Wood, making his debut as a motion picture director after a succession of hits in London's West End.

Colossus 1980, science-fact drama, starring Eric Braeden, Susan Clark and Gordon Pinsett; produced by Stanley Chase, directed by Joseph Sargent.

The Act of the Heart, contemporary love story, starring Genevieve Bujold, produced, directed and written by Paul Almond, filmed in Canada.

Scheduled for production in time for 1970 release:

Hal Wallis' production of *Anne of the Thousand Days*, based on Maxwell Anderson's hit Broadway play, to star Richard Burton and Genevieve Bujold, to be filmed in England.

Robert Wise's production of Michael Crichton's forthcoming modern science-adventure novel, *The Andromeda Strain*, with Wise also serving as director.

Martin Poll's *Love Duet*, anthology film based on a theme of modern romance, to be made in two episodes, one directed by Sweden's Ingmar Bergman, the other by Italy's Federico Fellini.

Alfred Hitchcock's *The Short Night*, a contemporary adventure romance, set in Finland, based on a novel by Ronald Kirkbride, with Hitchcock to use three major stars for the top roles of an American news-

paperman, a notorious spy and his wife, to film on the actual locale.

Harry Keller and Peter Stone will co-produce *Skin Game*, an unusual adventure comedy, with Stone having written the screenplay.

Ross Hunter will produce *The Public Eye*, a romantic farce based on a one-act play by Peter Shaffer.

Frank P. Rosenberg will produce *Red Sky at Morning*, comedy set in the Southwest during World War II, based on a novel by Richard Bradford who also wrote the screenplay.

The Newman-Foreman company, headed by Paul Newman and John Foreman, will produce *They Might Be Giants*, by James Goldman, with Joanne Woodward indicated as feminine lead.

James A. Michener's as-yet untitled original motion picture, set in a contemporary milieu and concerning itself with the international young jet set.

Julian Blaustein's production of *His Eye Is on the Sparrow*, life story of Ethel Waters, with Peter Feibleman to write the screenplay.

Mark Robson will produce and direct *Touch*, from an original screenplay by Frederick Raphael

Martin Poll will produce *The Mechanic*, with Martin Ritt to direct, Cliff Robertson to star.

Set For Release

Remaining '69 releases, Rackmil announced, are: roadshow presentation of *Sweet Charity*; Alfred Hitchcock's production of *Topaz*; *Loves of Isadora*, starring Vanessa Redgrave; *The Lost Man*, starring Sidney Poitier, Joanna Shimkus and Al Freeman, Jr.; *Winning*, romantic action drama, starring Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward and Robert Wagner; and *Three Into Two Won't Go*, starring Rod Steiger, Claire Bloom and Judy Geeson.

Also set are *Willie Boy*, starring Robert Redford, Katharine Ross; *The Love God?* starring Don Knotts; *Death of a Gunfighter*, starring Richard Widmark and Lena Horne; *Eye of the Cat*, starring Michael Sarrazin, Gayle Hunnicutt and Eleanor Parker; *Doppelganger*, starring Roy Thinnes; *Angel In My Pocket*, starring Andy Griffith; *A Man Called Gannon*, starring Tony Franciosa.

Seadler Leaving Metro For Berend V.P. Post

Si Seadler has resigned his executive position at MGM and on May 12 will join the Frank Berend Organization as vice-president. In the interim he will complete his special work at MGM where for many years he was advertising manager and more recently director of special projects.

For Berend Seadler will be specializing in film premieres and creating new ideas for their launching. In addition he will act as liaison with the publicity departments of the film companies concerned. Seadler's exit from MGM ends a distinguished career with the company, where for many years he was assistant to Howard Dietz.

UJA Testimonial Lunch Will Honor Movielab's Jeffee

Saul Jeffee, president of Movielab, will be honored by the Entertainment Communications Division of the UJA.



SAUL JEFFEE

Jewish Appeal industry-wide testimonial luncheon April 23, at Americana Hotel was announced by Walter Brecher, Mortimer Beck, chairmen of the division.

Jeffee, a pioneer motion picture technology, is current chairman of the Professional Film Guild.

Jeffee is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and also serves as treasurer of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, in which he is a fellow. He served as an advisor to the Israeli Government on motion picture and TV matters and has represented the U.S. film industry in international culture exchange negotiations.

Ridenour Readies Hagerstown Twins

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The Carmel Rancho Shopping Center, Carmel Valley, California, will have an indoor twin theatre which will be operated by Kindair Corp. One auditorium will feature a large-size screen, the other a small screen and a single projection booth will serve both. The theatres will be constructed so to also accommodate community events.

Moving eastward, a building permit has been issued to J. Kenneth Ridenour for the construction of a \$100,000 twin theatre adjacent to the Hager Drive-In in Hagerstown, Maryland. Plans call for one of the theatres to have 350 rocking chair seats and the other having 600 conventional theatre seats. The former house will feature roadshow attractions.

Arista Theatres of New York, which is going to have an early May unveiling of its Malibu Theatre on 59th Street between Second and Third Avenues on N.Y.C.'s East Side, is also going to be represented by Broadway showcase. Arista has leased the premises formerly occupied by the Lido Theatre on 48th Street between Broadway and Seventh Avenue and the building will be converted into a theatre to be known as the Cine Lido. Arista plans simultaneous openings of the two theatres and films to play day and date at both houses.

An 800-seat theatre complex is planned for Duluth, Minn. at the intersection of Maple Grove Road, Decker Road and Miller Truck Highway. Pending approval of various federal agencies, construction to begin this spring by Prindle-Lachman Co., a realty firm.