

15F4 Friday, April 15 10:40 pm

UNITED STATES

HELLBENT

Cinematographer: Jim Gillie
Director: Richard Casey
Producer: Louise Jaffe
Writer: Richard Casey
Music: Greg Burk, Mark Wheaton, Trotsky Icepick
Principal Cast: Phil Ward, Lyn Levand, Cheryl Slean, David Marciano
Production Co.: Hellbent Productions
U.S. Distributor: P.R.O., 11849 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 200, Los Angeles, CA 90064, Tel: (213) 478-5159
 1988/Color/90 min.

Hellbent comes described as a classical tragedy about a young man who asks the question: "Why does evil exist in the world, and how can I get in on it?" This tale of a rock-and-roller who makes a deal with the devil is an allegorical sojourn into self-destruction. Lemmy is the lead singer in a band that's going nowhere, until a strange dude named Luther Tanas offers to manage them—an offer that Lemmy jumps at, thinking it's just another business deal. At the same time, Sally Jones is a middle-class suburban housewife whose life is torn apart when her husband tries to doublecross Tanas. Although Lemmy and Sally each choose different paths towards the evil Luther, their fates are inexorably intertwined because, ultimately, Luther is the man pulling all the strings. Rock video director Richard Casey—lauded by "Rolling Stone" for his videos for Black Sabbath, Romeo Void, and many others—mixes comedy, action, and suspense in this unsettling soupcon of ultimate evil. —Vancouver Film Festival



24B3 Monday, April 24 8:45 pm

UNITED STATES

ILLUSORY THOUGHTS

Cinematographers: Paul Gibson, Mark Trottenberg
Director: Patrick Chu
Producers: Patrick Chu, Dale Chan
Writer: Patrick Chu
Music: Janet Lund
Editors: Tom Agnello, Philip Pucci
Principal Cast: Patrick Chu, Dale Chan, Hester Chan
Production Co.: Lolminchay Productions, 503 Broadway, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10012, Tel: (212) 941-7488
 1988/Color/72 min.

Patrick Chu, a Hong Kong-born New Yorker in his mid-30s, conceived and created *Illusory Thoughts* and is also its principal actor and dancer, appearing in most scenes. This is a highly personal and idiosyncratic film, following the subjective internalized ruminations of a New York choreographer, played by Chu, as he ponders the untidy mess called life. Chu's divided affections for two attractive Chinese artists are part of the slim plot. Thoughts are in the title and they abound on the soundtrack in voice-over narration and in conversation, thoughts on art and religion and relationships. Rich music and sounds combine with dance and motion and stylized gestures. —Hitch., "Variety"—Plus THE MONEY JUGGLER (1988/USA/56 min.) Leo Rubinfien directs this adaptation of a story by Louis Auchincloss about the rise and fall of Lester Gordon, a flamboyant Jewish tycoon. John Cunningham leads a cast of distinguished stage and film actors as Lester's friends spend an afternoon debating the man's faults and virtues.



16E3 Sunday, April 16 8:15 pm

UNITED STATES

THE KEEPER OF THE LIGHT

Cinematographer: Burreigh Wartes
Writer-director-producer: Chuck Workman
Production Co.-U.S. Distributor: Calliope Films,
 1989/Color/54 min.

Oscar-winning documentary filmmaker Chuck Workman, whose recent films spotlighting the work of directors and writers have attracted wide attention, turns his attention to Israel in his new documentary, *The Keeper of the Light*, surveying its history from Biblical times to the present day. Concentrating on what Israel is today and what it means to Israelis and the Jews of the world, he shows us many aspects of the country including its problems as well as its successes. Utilizing films from a variety of sources, he gives us a fascinating and often surprising look inside one of the most extraordinary nations in the world. —Ken Wlaschin—*Golub* is an excellent introduction both to American painter Leon Golub, known for his frightening depictions of fascistic strongarms, and the artistic process. Directed by Jerry Blumenthal and Gordon Quinn, the film lets us in on the creation of a painting from beginning to end. Seen with his wife, artist Nancy Spero, Golub emerges as an unpretentious man of conscience. —Lloyd Sachs, "Chicago Sun-Times"

**GOLUB**

Cinematographer: Gordon Quinn
Producers-Directors: Jerry Blumenthal, Gordon Quinn
Production Co.: Kartemquin Educational Films,
 1988/Color/56 min.

14A2 Friday, April 14 6:30 pm

UNITED STATES

THE LASERMAN

Cinematographer: Ernest Dickerson
Director: Peter Wang
Producer: Peter Wang
Writer: Peter Wang
Music: Mason Daring
Editor: Grahaeme Weinbren
Principal Cast: Peter Wang, Marc Hayashi, Maryann Urbano, Tony Ka-Fei
Production Cos.: Peter Wang Films, Hong Kong Film Workshop
U.S. Representative: Thomas F.R. Garvin, 9401 Wilshire Blvd., 9th Floor, Beverly Hills, CA 90212, T el: (213) 273-6333
 1988/Color/91 min.

The Laserman is a quirky, cross-cultural, high-tech comedy about serious matters from Peter Wang, who made an impression two years ago with *A Great Wall*. The oddball, self-consciously implausible story concerning the manipulation of a laser expert by his business serves as a pegboard on which Wang hangs any number of amusing observations about The Melting Pot, 1988, particularly where Chinese-Americans are concerned. Wang, who appears periodically throughout the picture as a New York police investigator, sets a light-hearted tone at the outset, so much so that one can't really be sure that laser researcher Arthur Weiss (March Hayashi) really does accidentally kill a colleague in an experiment. But he did, and is instantly rendered so unemployable that he is forced to sign on with a suspicious firm involved in space weaponry and arms smuggling. In the meantime, the viewer is introduced to the ethnically goofy collection of family and friends surrounding Weiss. —Todd McCarthy, "Variety" plus short POLLY GONE (1988/USA/3min) Shelley Lake's computer animated fantasy.





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