



## 'The Fisher King,' a one-of-a-kind quest

by Daniel W. Duffy

*The Fisher King* had two strikes against it before I even entered the theater. I usually can't stand Robin Williams' constant and off-the-wall humor because it seems out of place in many of his roles. I also think the director, Terry Gilliam's prior films like *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen* and *Brazil* seem like some sort of bad acid trip and make no coherent sense. However, *The Fisher King* was a different story all together. This story was excruciatingly funny, it had some sweet romantic moments,

and had genuine heart to it. Robin Williams was endearing as Parry, the resident, homeless knight of New York City on his quest for the Holy Grail. Williams' stream-of-consciousness style fit well within the pa-

noexception. The backdrops look like something out of an Orwell nightmare. Whether it be dark, towering city scapes or a fiery knight on horseback, Gilliam's images are striking.

### MOVIE REVIEW

#### The Fisher King (★★★★½)

Starring Robin Williams, Jeff Bridges, Mercedes Ruehl, Amanda Plummer. Directed by Terry Gilliam.

rameters of this eccentric, visionary character. Jeff Bridges was also exceptional in his portrayal of a self-centered, "shock" DJ trying to find his purpose in life. Gilliam has always had a unique look to his films and the *The Fisher King* is

direction. This is the first one of his movies that has potential commercial success, while maintaining the integrity of his bizarre vision. *The Fisher King* pushes the length of *Dances With Wolves*, but if you can stay with it, it's well worth the effort.

This film seems to show a more mainstream side of Gilliam, and I think it is a move in the right direction. This is the first one of his movies that has potential commercial success, while maintaining the integrity of his bizarre vision. *The Fisher King* pushes the length of *Dances With Wolves*, but if you can stay with it, it's well worth the effort.



Robin Williams (l.) and Jeff Bridges search for the Holy Grail in New York City.

## Ziggy and the Melody Makers spread the spirit, 'mon'

by James Dudman

### COMMENTARY

The legacy of Bob Marley has sparked our country's latest reggae revolution. Now his son Ziggy and his band, the Melody Makers are bound to ignite Jamaica's newest musical fire.

With their latest album *Jahmekya*, Ziggy and his band have again improved like good wine, with age.

Songs such as "Good

Times," "Raw Riddim," "Kozmik" and "New Time and Age" contain a powerful rhythm and beat that would drive most grandmothers out of their rocking-chair retirement into a stomping dance craze.

Some other tracks on *Jahmekya* capture the traditional reggae sound such as "Problem with My Woman," written by Ziggy's younger brother Stephen

who, along with sisters Cadella and Sharon, make up the Melody Makers.

"Jah is True and Perfect" a religious track, along with "Namibia" a political track, dig down to the roots of reggae with a message to all who are ready to listen.

My message is to treat your ears and mind to the sound of the times, *Jahmekya*.

## Kaleidoscope series begins

The Department of Music and the College of Fine and Performing Arts have announced the inauguration of the Kaleidoscope Music Series.

The series is being held in conjunction with "The World's Music: Live" new course being offered this fall by the Department of Music.

This fall's series features performers of contemporary African pop, bluegrass, Jewish, North Indian classical music and jazz.

The series will begin with The Warburton Family Bluegrass Band on Sept. 17. This Las Vegas - based quartet has been performing together for over 20 years and have received the Governor's Folk Arts Award.

They play a variety of string instruments including fiddle, mandolin and

banjo and all four members

The next concert will be held on Oct. 1 and will be a history of Jewish music with acclaimed singer, Judy Ginsburgh.

Five recordings and numerous tours have established Ginsburgh as one of the nation's leading authorities on this subject. Her voice has won her many awards including a Special Music Award from the Religious Heritage Society of America.

The series continues on Oct. 5 with the Bhundu Boys, a popular band from Zimbabwe. This band performs a type of music they describe as "jit"—a blend of traditional African sound with contemporary pop.

Their albums have been very successful in Africa and

Europe and audiences are especially impressed live performances.

This concert is being sponsored in conjunction with the Donald Moyer Student Union Program Council, Student Government and KUNV.

On Oct. 29 Amaya Dasgupta, an Indian sitar player now living in Los Angeles, will present an evening of North Indian classical music.

On Nov. 5 some of Las Vegas' best-known jazz musicians will present a concert surveying jazz from Dixieland to Bebop.

All concerts will begin at 8 p.m. and are open to the public at minimal charge. For more information, please contact the UNLV Department of Music at 739-3372.

## Panel to discuss the finer points of storytelling

Diana Wolkstein, Richard Wiley and Robert Dodge will participate in a panel discussion on the art of written and oral storytelling on Thursday, Sept. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in Wright Hall 117.

Wolkstein is a nationally recognized storyteller and author who has written such books as *Inana, Banza and Oomrazoon*. She has appeared at nearly every important storytelling festival in America. She is especially well known for her stories of ancient civilizations, including the Babylonian and Sumerian. She is in Las Vegas to participate in the Desert

Storytelling Festival at the Henderson District Public Library on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. The UNLV community is invited to attend this festival where they will hear stories about deserts in America and the rest of the world.

Wiley, an associate professor of English at UNLV, is the author of three novels, *Soldiers in Hiding*, *Fool's Gold* and *Festival for Three Thousand Maidens*. *Soldiers in Hiding* was the winner of the prestigious Pen-Faulkner Award.

Dodge, a professor of

English at UNLV is a local storyteller and a writer. He is the author or co-author of *Early American Almanac Humor*, *Voices from Wah'kon-tah*, *New and Old Voices of Wah'kon-tah* (both with Joseph McCullough) and *A Tale Type and Motif Index of Early U.S. Almanacs* (with Michael Stitt).

Dodge will also perform at the Desert Storytelling Festival.

Michael Stitt, assistant professor of English, will moderate the panel which is funded by the Department of English and The Nevada Humanities Committee.

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