

Nobel prize winning poet
Czeslaw Milosz to speak at
UNLV

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THE REBEL YELL

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'Gladiator' fails to score a knock-out

by Daniel W. Duffy

Director Rowdy Herrington's (*Road House*) latest burst of machismo is a hard core version of the *Karate Kid*, entitled *Gladiator*. Instead of being set in a dojo, *Gladiator* takes place in the back alleys of Chicago's underground boxing circuit.

James Marshall of "Twin Peaks" fame stars as Tommy Dorsey, a good-natured kid who gets involved in the boxing circuit to pay-off his old man's gambling debts. Marshall befriends Lincoln (Cuba Gooding, Jr.), and the two of them have to defend themselves against some of the biggest bad-boys from Chicago's south side. A forced romance is added and you have a cliché boxing story. Every trick from Rocky I through V is also thrown in the

ring, adding insult to injury.

Another downer is the casting of Brian Dennehy, who is thoroughly unconvincing as Horn, the evil-spirited boxing promoter who will prostitute Marshall to no end as the next "Great White Hope." Dennehy who played a strong villain in *Silverado*, is too overweight and sloth-like to be believable as the meanest, baddest ex-boxer alive. He looks more like King Kong Bundy than Muhammad Ali.

Ossie Davis (*Jungle Fever*) also has a bit part as Marshall's corner man, but he isn't even utilized. Davis' character isn't allowed to fully develop, otherwise he could have played a masterful Mr. Miyagi to Marshall's Daniel-san.

The same could be said about Gooding, Jr.'s character. He is far and away the most

MOVIE REVIEW

Gladiator (★★½)

Starring James Marshall and Cuba Gooding, Jr., and Brian Dennehy. Directed by Rowdy Herrington.

interesting character in the film, yet he is given minimal screen time. He is the only one in the film that is truly believable as a boxer.

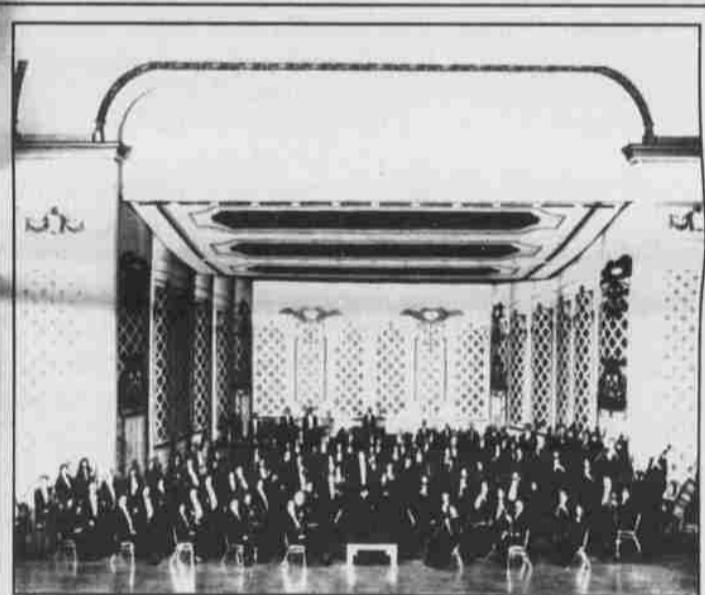
Marshall hadn't ever boxed before the film and it shows. His boxing repertoire is rather feeble. Even though Marshall has a limited acting and boxing range, his character is interesting to watch for the first hour of the film. He is convincing as a quiet pugilist outside the ring, trying to make a life for himself and make do on his father's weekly installments to the mob. This is the case until the story and his character grow stale in



James Marshall (L.) and Cube Goodings Jr. star in *Gladiator*.

the latter rounds. Marshall seems to be more at home playing the mysterious loner, James Hurly on "Twin Peaks" who doesn't have to go through a wide range of emotions like this gladiator.

Gladiator could have been a contender if they'd only dodged the cheesy romance and rope-a-doped the boxing clichés and focused more on the relationship between Marshall and Gooding, Jr.



The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra lead by Jesus Lopez-Cobos to perform at Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall on Monday.

Cincinnati Symphony to perform at Ham Hall

The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, the fifth oldest symphony in the United States, will perform at 8 p.m. Monday at Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall as part of the Charles Vanda Master Series.

During its 95-year history, the orchestra has been led by such distinguished music directors as Leopold Stokowski, Fritz Reiner, Eugene Goossen, Max Rudolph, Thomas Schippers and Michael Glelen. Its current music director, Jesus Lopez-Cobos, has been praised for his rapport with the orchestra and his ability to communicate the subtlest of emotions. In keeping with the German roots of Cincinnati, it has been noted that the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra's "sound could be taken for that of a German ensemble—rich, dark, warm, firmly founded on a strong group of cellos and basses,"

according to *American Record Guide*.

The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Maestro Lopez-Cobos have been invited by Carnegie Hall to recreate a historical performance of Mendelssohn's oratorio *Elijah* during Carnegie's centennial celebration this year.

Last fall Lopez-Cobos began his tenure as music director of the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra, to which he devotes himself when he is not in Cincinnati. Recently, he completed his 10-year tenure as principal conductor and artistic director of the Deutsche Oper Berlin (Berlin State Opera).

Tickets are available at the Performing Arts Center Box office. Discounts are available for students, faculty and staff, children, handicapped, military and senior citizens.

'Colored Museum' proves to be more than satire

by Gary Puckett

Theatre is often symbolically represented by two masks of contrasting expressions: one smiling and one serious. In reality, the presentation on the stage is often a blend of the two. Tragedy is often accented by comedy, and comedy by tragedy. *The Colored Museum* by George C. Wolfe is very much a blend, but the emphasis is definitely on tragedy.

Billed as "a wildly funny satire" in the Feb. 20 issue of *The Rebel Yell*, this presentation concluded performances March 1. Audiences may have been surprised to find very little in the production that could be described as "wildly funny." The material was often piercingly tragic.

In the opening skit, two

flight attendants (Rayme Cornell and Adrienne Nichelle Hester) instruct the audience as if they are passengers on a plane. Instructions include, "Fasten your shackles," with visual aids, and "No drums allowed." The audience responded, but not with laughter. This material was far too serious to evoke laughter. It was effective to produce serious contemplation and as a means to set the tone for the performance to follow. In violation of the instructions, and with historical accuracy, drums did begin to emphatically beat.

Later, in "The Photo Session," Penelope Walker and Ray Allmond are two models posing as they "live inside *Ebony* magazine." Again, the humor has a bite. "This month we get to be black and fabulous to-

gether," they state while posing. With this production taking place during Black History Month the meaning is loaded, although not contradictory. The audience is guaranteed "no contradictions and no pain."

With Edward M. Barker's appearance as the "Soldier with a Secret," humor goes out the door completely. Barker plays Junie Robinson, an American GI in Vietnam who has a tweaked reaction to the overwhelming and utter catastrophe of the war. It seems he is just a little too sensitive to the pain.

"How come you feel no pain?" Barker asked a body. "Right then and there it came to me, the secret of their pain. Just like Jesus healing the sick,

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UNLV Wind Ensemble gusts through campus

by Stephanie Penner

The University Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Thomas G. Leslie, will present a concert titled "A Study of American Wind Literature" tonight at 7:30 at Artemus Ham Concert Hall.

Also scheduled to perform are the Valley High School Symphonic Band, directed by Gene Bechen, and the Chaparral High School Symphonic Band, directed by Gene Nakanishi.

The University Wind Ensemble, a 45-member group composed mostly of music majors, will perform such contemporary pieces as "Praise Jerus-

alem!" by Alfred Reed, "The Sinfonians" by Clifton Williams and "Heroes, Lost and Fallen" by David Gillingham.

Leslie said the pieces that will be played include "everything from melodic, consonant, and harmonic structures to modern, dissonant, and effectual music." He added all music enthusiasts will enjoy the concert because of the highly emotional and inspiring music that will be performed.

"Praise Jerusalem!" is based on an Armenian Easter hymn. The piece is built upon a seventh-century melody found in the collection titled "Chants of the Devine Liturgy of the Armenian Apostolic Church."

The opening lines of "Praise Jerusalem!" tell of Christ's resurrection: "Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Christ is risen from the dead, Alleluia!" The introduction presents a version of the main theme, the opening of Christ's tomb. The finale returns to the reaffirmation of love and regeneration as trumpets proclaim Christ has risen.

Other contemporary pieces to be performed by the group include the symphonic march "The Sinfonians," and "Heroes, Lost and Fallen," a tribute to the Vietnam War.

Tickets are available at the Artemus Ham Hall box office. General admission is \$2; \$1 for senior citizens and students.