

FILM

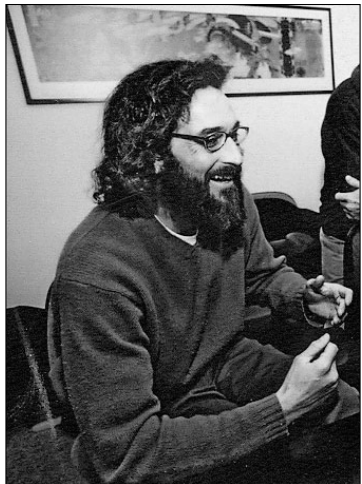
About fathers and children

The Chilmark Independent Film Festival ended its summer season last weekend with a two-day event that combined film and discussion on the theme of father-child relationships. Sponsored by Chilmark filmmaker Thomas Bena's Sea the World Productions, "Fathers and Their Children" featured films by Vineyard summer visitor Jason Badalament and discussion by best-selling writer and therapist Terry Real, who has a summer home in Aquinnah.

Author of "I Don't Want to Talk About It," Real led a discussion after screening of "All Men Are Sons: Exploring the Legacy of Fatherhood," in Saturday night's keynote event. The film, which has been aired nationally on PBS, follows five men as they explore the legacy their fathers have provided them.

"All Men Are Sons" co-directors Badalament, whose mother Diane Jensen has a home in Aquinnah, and Chad Grochowski participated in the discussion, along with several of the film's principals.

"It was an amazing treat that several of the men who were in the film could come," says Real. "I was very moved



FILE PHOTO BY RALPH STEWART

Thomas Bena.

by the impact making the film had on their lives and on sorting out their relationships with their fathers."

Real has been called the most innovative voice in thinking about and treating men and their relationships in the world today.

Other Vineyard par-

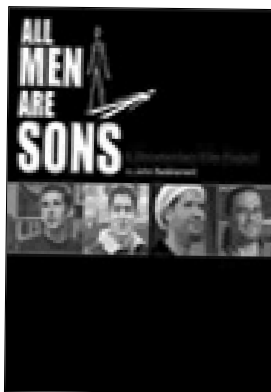
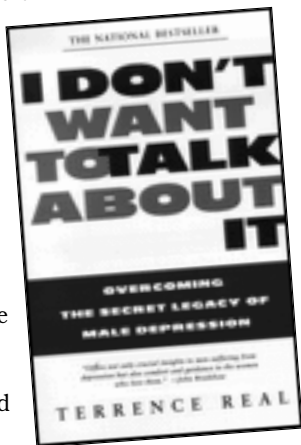
ticipants in "Fathers and Their Children" included psychiatrist Charles Silberstein who led the discussion after a screening of "Hardwood," a short film by Hubert Davis, the son of former Harlem Globetrotter Mel Davis. The film examines Mel Davis's effect on his son Hubert and other members of his family.

Badalament, who lectures internationally about gender issues, led father/son and father/daughter workshops Saturday afternoon. Justen Ahren of Tisbury and frequent Vineyard visitor Gerry Storrow of Somerville read their poetry Saturday morning before the screening of "Hardwood."

Short films by San Francisco filmmaker Jay Rosenblatt shown Friday night included "I Used to Be a Filmmaker," a charming personal meditation on the demands of helping care for a new baby. The film consists of a series of blackouts captioned with film production terms.

Organizer Thomas Bena arranged the two-day event after reading Real's book about men and depression last winter. "It changed my life," he said. "It turned my world upside down."

"I think for many boys their relationship with their father becomes the driving force in their lives," Charles Silberstein said. "I hope that the event will be done again."

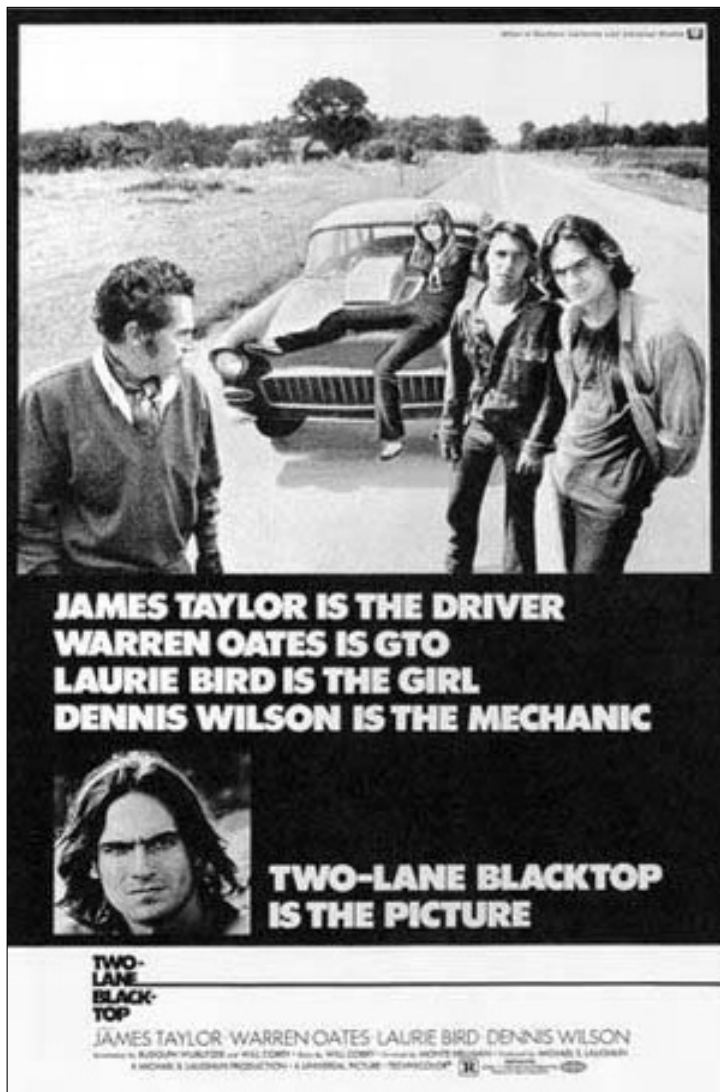


FILM SHORTS

You can never go fast enough...

The year 1971 was a banner year for existential road movies, as "Two-Lane Blacktop" and "Vanishing Point" hit theaters within four months of each other, but "Two-Lane Blacktop" has stood the test of time as the stronger, more compelling picture. Monte Hellman's deliberate pacing and sharp widescreen framings capture the drivers' wanderlust and obsession with speed with a determined casualness that allows us to look past the cars and into the minds of the men who drive them.

It's about two guys driving a souped-up '55 Chevy who go from town to town, surviving on the winnings from races they provoke with other hot car owners. As The Driver, folk singer James Taylor has the determined gaze, even if he's not much on dialogue, and Beach Boys drummer Dennis Wilson is quite good as The Mechanic, half-bright until he starts talking about engines. Laurie Bird is both confounding and charming as the chatty hippie that they pick up along the way, but it's Warren Oates who steals the show, giving



one of the finest performances of his career as GTO, a brash braggart whose tall tales change depending on whom he's talking to. The way he smiles, the way he shifts between pathetic bravado and a sort of rueful

tenderness, his hilarious pretensions that end up winning you over. I'm grinning right now just remembering it.

"Two-Lane Blacktop," presented by the Silver Screen Film Society, at the Grange Hall on Thursday, Sept. 1, at 8 pm. Tickets are \$6 or \$4 for members. Visit our web site at www.mvfilmssociety.com for information.

SHORT SUBJECTS

With fiddles and bows



The Kane sisters return to Martha's Vineyard for an Irish music concert this Saturday evening. Liz and Yvonne Kane have just released their second album, "Under the Diamond." Their first album, "The Well Tempered Bow," was named one of the top ten albums of 2002 by Earle Hitchner of the Irish Echo.

The two sisters hail from Dawros, a village in Connemara, County Galway, on the west coast of Ireland. They come from a musical family. Their grandfather, fiddle player Jimmy Mullen, is a leading figure on the traditional music scene in Connemara for more than 50 years.

Liz studied music at University College Cork, receiving a music and education degree. The sisters played here in 2002 and can be heard on the album "Live from the Katharine Cornell Theatre, Traditional Irish Music."

The Kane Sisters in concert Saturday, Sept. 3, 8 pm at Katharine Cornell Theatre, Spring Street, Vineyard Haven. Tickets \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. For more information call 508-693-6996 or visit www.kctconcerts.com.

Jazz quartet Saturday night



Esperanza Spalding Quartet featuring Frank Wilkins will perform this Saturday at the Exchange in Oak Bluffs. Ms. Spalding, a bass player, was awarded a full scholarship and attends Berklee College of Music. She's been playing bass since age 15 and has been performing in jazz and blues clubs around her hometown of Portland, Ore.

Since moving to Boston, she has performed with such notable artists as Brian Blade, Michael Brecker, Dave Samuels, and others. In November 2002 and March 2003, she toured with Patty Austin

playing music from Ms. Austin's new album "For Ella." The tour included performances in New York's Lincoln Center. Esperanza Spalding Quartet, Saturday, Sept. 3, 8 pm to 11 pm, the Exchange, 116 Dukes County Avenue, Oak Bluffs. Also Sept. 10. Tickets \$18. For information call 508-693-6942.

Kids in trouble

Troubled Shores, Inc., the people who bring you WIMP and IMP improvisation, present IMP's last camp show, "Bucket O' Change," this Friday. The show was completely created by the campers and is based on the theme of "Consequences."

You will see scripted work, improvisation, hear music, and student's plays. The campers worked for two weeks with Donna Swift, Christopher Brophy, Shelagh Smilie, Ed Cisek, and Jenn Barry and covered all aspects of theater.

The IMP camp show, Friday, Sept. 2, 11 am, Act I; 2 pm, Act II; and 7:30 pm, full show, Oak Bluffs School, Trade Winds Road. Tickets \$8 for adults or \$6 for children. For more information call 508-939-9368.

Kingsbury Henshaw on air

Author Kristen Kingsbury Henshaw joins host Mindy Todd on "The Point," the Cape and Islands NPR Stations' daily call-in program next week to discuss her book, "Craig Kingsbury Talkin," a collection of her father, Craig Kingsbury's, tales. Mr. Kingsbury was the model for the character Quint played by actor Robert Shaw in "Jaws" and the book features a chapter about the film.

Hear Ms. Henshaw on "The Point" Thursday, Sept. 8, at 9:30 am on WCAI 90.1, WNAN 91.1, and WZAI 94.3, or online at www.capeandislands.org.

Sneak peek

Would you like to be among the first to see the film "Beyond the Patriot Act?" See a sneak preview of this film next Thursday, Sept. 8 at the Grange Hall. The film is produced by award-winning filmmaker Robert Greenwald, and is the first in a 10-part series.

Islanders for Civil Liberties and the Martha's Vineyard Peace Council join the Martha's Vineyard Film Society to bring you this 30-minute film.

"Beyond the Patriot Act" Thursday, Sept. 8, 7 pm, at the Grange Hall, State Road, West Tisbury. Tickets are \$5. For more information call 508-645-3858.



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