

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF
'DOWN BY LAW' & 'MYSTERY TRAIN'



WINONA RYDER GENA ROWLANDS

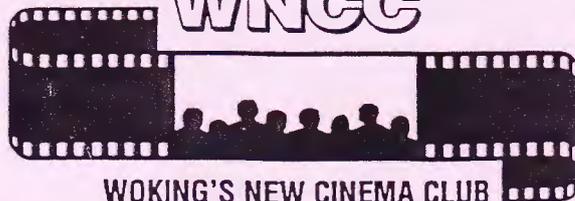
ROBERTO BENIGNI BEATRICE DALLE

A FILM BY JIM JARMUSCH MUSIC BY TOM WAITS

NIGHT ON EARTH

FIVE TAXIS. FIVE CITIES. ONE NIGHT. 15

WNCC



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NIGHT ON EARTH

Written, Directed and Produced By
Jim Jarmusch

Starring (In Order of Appearance)

Winona Ryder
Gena Rowlands
Giancarlo Esposito
Armin Mueller-Stahl
Rosie Perez
Isaach De Bankolé
Beatrice Dalle
Roberto Benigni
Paolo Bonacelli
Matti Pellonpää
Kari Väänänen
Sakari Kuosmanen
Tomi Salmela



Director of Photography
Frederick Elmes

"The beauty in life is in small details, not in big events" says Jim Jarmusch. His previous films, "Stranger than Paradise" and "Mystery Train" began his investigation into the theme of total strangers sharing a certain time and space together.

"Night on Earth" continues this theme. The film is a sequence of brief relationships developing inside taxi cabs between the cabbie and his/her passenger. The added twist is that these five encounters all take place simultaneously in five different cities around the world. Between each sequence we see five clocks -- each set at the time in each city. As we move to a new location, the clocks all wind back to the same starting point. Being a bit of a traveller, this really appeals to me, as I have always been fascinated by the fact that some people are going to bed as others get up!

We start in Los Angeles. 7.07 p.m. Corky (Winona Ryder) picks up a Hollywood casting agent, Victoria Snelling, who decides that the tomboy mechanic would be ideal for the part she is casting. Is Corky tempted? Wait and see.

New York. 10.07 p.m. An interesting combination of YoYo (Giancarlo Esposito), a young black man trying to get to Brooklyn, and Helmut (Armin Mueller-Stahl), a former East German circus clown, barely able to drive. We also meet YoYo's fiery sister-in-law Angela (Rosie Perez) -- can you tolerate her irritating drawl?

Paris. 4.07 a.m. This was the first segment that Jarmusch wrote, inspired by his relationship with the two actors Beatrice Dalle and Isaach de Bankolé. The former plays a blind woman, a role very different from her well-known "Betty Blue". She is quizzed by the taxi-driver from the Ivory Coast, who is surprised to find her in fact more capable of orientation than he is!

Rome. 4.07 a.m. Roberto Benigni uses his background in stand-up and improvisational comedy to play Gino, an energetic and crazy cabbie who wears sunglasses as he cruises the city at night. He picks up an ailing priest (Paolo Bonacelli), and then amuses himself by recounting tales of bizarre sexual exploits, and turning the cab into a confessional box. It is, however, all a bit much for the poor priest.



Helsinki. 5.07 a.m. The final journey takes place in Finland. Although the location and culture are not as well known as the other four portrayed, Jarmusch chose this because of his fondness for the Finnish character. "Finns are particular and strong people, tough and rugged but not afraid of their emotions. They drink all night and start crying like babies at four o'clock in the morning, but if you accuse one of them of not being manly, they'll throw you out of the window". Having never met a Finn, I cannot comment on his views!

Three drunk friends share tales of woe with Mika, their driver (Matti Pellonpää) -- "Leningrad Cowboys go A merica" and "La Vie de Boheme)". One of the passengers has terrible family problems, but Mika tells his own sad story, which quiets them down.

The stories feature no neat closing twists. The encounters rarely leave any traces (except in Rome), and none of the participants is likely to be changed significantly by them. Like "Groundhog Day", I enjoyed the idea behind this film, A sense of the world going round and people meeting in transit. I personally would have preferred a greater variety of locations, but the characters themselves make up for that.

But now that I have gone from here,
There's no place I'd rather be
And float my chances on the tide,
Back in the good old world.

Tom Waits. (Theme Song)

Helen Sayers.

NIGHT ON EARTH

A FILM BY JIM JARMUSCH MUSIC BY TOM WAITS 15



Winona Ryder

Beatrice Dalle,



Goldwater Lodge

BIG SCREEN

COMING NEXT MONTH



A ROBERT REDFORD FILM

"A genuine work of art. Beautiful, haunting and brilliantly directed by Robert Redford."

Rex Reed, New York Observer

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

PG



AN ALLIED FILMMAKERS RELEASE

Redford deploys his directorial skills to good effect in this surprise US box-office hit. An adaptation of Norman MacLean's novella, set in 1910s Montana, the film depicts the shifting relationships between two brothers and their father, for whom the family pastime of fly-fishing takes on almost mythical proportions. Dazzling photography, beautiful riverside locations and an excellent cast contribute to its charm. USA 1992/Dir Robert Redford. With Brad Pitt, Tom Skerritt, Craig Sheffer, Emily Lloyd.

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TUESDAY 7 JUNE AT 8:00 pm

PERFORMANCE ENDS 10.35 p.m.