

along with height and mass, forcing him to sweat off water weight to stay in his division. Scribner is seen doing all of the cajoling, berating, and inspiring one would expect from a coach trying to motivate, but he's also forever putting out brush fires, including driving to his students' homes when they don't show up for practice, and negotiating with cops. Not surprisingly, the outcome here is not a fairytale ending, but rather qualified success: real life, in other words. Extras include deleted scenes and an interview with the filmmakers. Recommended. Aud: C, P. (T. Keogh)

## THE ARTS

### The Artist in Society: Talking with Hershell West ★★ ★ 1/2

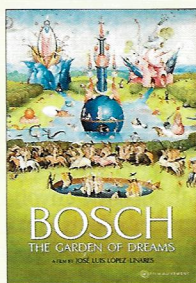
(2017) 50 min. DVD: \$15; individuals; \$80; public libraries; \$170; colleges & universities. Palomino Productions. PPR.

An artist and advocate who has served on the official arts commissions of California cities Richmond and Oakland (as president of each), Hershell West proves to be a fount of wisdom in this compelling documentary by Eve A. Ma. West discusses his work as a muralist, making beautiful and often evocative public works in the medium (including brief histories of communities, as represented by playful images). He also discusses his life as a painter on canvas, and how his visual sensibility began with describing the world to his blind grandmother and selling his work to schoolmates. Besides his stints with arts commissions, West has also taught art to at-risk kids, recalling a heartbreaking story about a talented boy who refused to take his excellent artwork home because it would be taken from him. Viewers also see West deeply involved in another cause as one of the founders of TAOLB (The Art of Living Black) at the Richmond Art Center, an annual group exhibition of contemporary works by African American artists. While he might not be a household name, West is certainly a heroic community figure who will inspire others. Highly recommended. Aud: C, P. (T. Keogh)

### At the Drive-In ★★ ★

(2019) 79 min. DVD: \$19.95. Music Video Distributors (avail. from most distributors).

Filmmaker Alexander Monelli's documentary focuses on the Mahoning Drive-In, a struggling venue in rural Lehigh, PA. Owner Jeff Mattox lacks the funds needed to replace the still-functioning 1949 35mm film projectors with digital projection, and with Hollywood studios ceasing to use film for theatrical exhibition, Mattox is at a crossroads. A pair of Temple University film students named Matt and Virgil cheerfully work with Mattox to keep his operation alive, even if it means forgoing a salary. Reaching out to locate vintage 35mm prints—a copy of



### Bosch: The Garden of Dreams ★★ ★ 1/2

(2019) 90 min. In English & Spanish w/English subtitles. DVD: \$24.95. Film Movement (avail. from most distributors). Closed captioned.

One of the world's most famous artworks, *The Garden of Earthly Delights* triptych by the 16th-century Dutch master Hieronymus Bosch (1450-1516), is celebrated in José Luis López-Linares's documentary, which coincided with the 500th anniversary of the painter's death. *Bosch* outlines the scant information available on the artist's life, but its major emphasis is an analysis of the *Garden* itself, photographed lovingly in its home at the Prado in Madrid—the museum where many of Bosch's works are to be found as a result of King Philip II of Spain's assiduous collection efforts. Experts use modern x-ray devices to reveal the process of creation, while scholars discuss the painting's place in art history and the meaning of the iconographic symbols that are employed in such wild profusion. They also ruminate on the work's overall impact, both on 16th-century viewers and contemporary audiences, discussing its visionary representations of Earth, Heaven, and Hell, with all of their allegorical implications. Non-specialists, ranging from musicians as disparate as pop singer Sílvia Pérez Cruz and classical conductor William Christie to novelist Salman Rushdie, also weigh in to explain their enthusiasm for the work. Although the documentary is fairly conventional in its approach, it affords a superb introduction to a painting that has proven to be an inexhaustible source of interest to art lovers for five centuries, as well as an inspiration to painters from Brueghel to the surrealists. Highly recommended. Aud: C, P. (F. Swietek)

Kevin Smith's *Clerks* is provided from Quentin Tarantino's personal collection—and tapping into social media to rouse awareness among the region's die-hard movie lovers, the trio labor to keep the Mahoning Drive-In thriving in the face of incredible commercial and cultural odds. There is an abundance of can-do spirit and film nerd charm to be found here, along with a bit of unexpectedly snippy in-fighting between some longtime members of Mattox's staff and the two cinephile newcomers who arrive with grand plans. Extras include cast and crew audio commentaries, deleted scenes, and a screening Q&A. A celebration of old-school movie viewing that is both warm and fun, this is recommended. Aud: C, P. (P. Hall)

### Banjos, Bluegrass & Squirrel Barkers

★★ ★

(2017) 49 min. DVD: \$11.95. Music Video Distributors (avail. from most distributors).

Palm trees are not the first image that comes to mind when listening to bluegrass music. But this interesting, insider-ish account of the rich bluegrass and folk music scene that developed in California (mostly Southern California) beginning in the 1950s—and is still carrying on today—serves up fascinating lore that often intersects with pop and rock history. Starting with the wildly popular Kingston Trio, which formed in Honolulu and San Francisco, and whose 1958 hit single "Tom Dooley" helped launch the hootenanny years in American music, the bluegrass movement was an offshoot of folk music. The San Diego area alone saw the rise of countless bands, towered over by the local Scottsville Squirrel Barkers, whose members included Chris Hillman (who would later moonlight as co-founder of the Byrds), Ber-

nie Leadon (the Flying Burrito Brothers and The Eagles), and Mason Williams ("Classical Gas"), the latter serving in the U.S. Navy by day and playing clubs at night. Director Rick Bowman traces the decades-long lineage of successive bluegrass groups who learned from prior generations in SoCal, among them the famous contemporary Nickel Creek, which features mandolin and public radio star Chris Thile. Quite a few folks from the historic ensembles were still alive and well during the shooting of this 2017 documentary, and they have lots of reflections and memories to share. Sure to appeal to bluegrass fans, this is recommended. Aud: C, P. (T. Keogh)

### Bauhaus Spirit: 100 Years of Bauhaus

★★ ★

(2018) 90 min. In English, French, German & Spanish w/English subtitles. DVD: \$26.98 (\$398 w/PPR from www.icarusfilms.com). Icarus Films Home Video (avail. from most distributors). Closed captioned.

The history and influence of the German art school Bauhaus, founded by Walter Gropius in Weimar in 1919 (but later moved to Dessau and then Berlin—until being closed as a result of Nazi pressure in 1933), are chronicled in filmmakers Niels Bolbrinker and Thomas Tielsch's expansive but rather meandering documentary. *Bauhaus Spirit* describes the mixture of imagination and utility that animated Gropius's vision of a place where art, architecture, design, painting, and sculpture could be combined into a multi-disciplinary whole. The purpose was not merely theoretical: the school aimed to foster a progressive movement in which form and function would complement one another in the task of fashioning a better world—one that was both more livable and more emotionally engaging