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THIS WEEK'S RENT || BY MICHAEL ATKINSON || 07 14 2010 6:30 PM

On DVD: When Mud Orgies and Full Monties Aren't Enough

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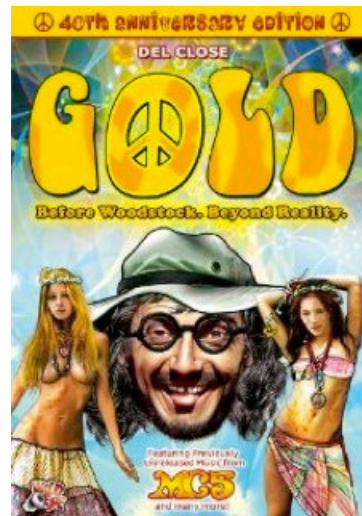
There are plenty of reasons to look back at the '60s and envy its crazy natives, but Bob Levis's notorious and rarely-seen *Gold* (1968) manifests a beaut: in those days, the rules that govern mass culture could be treated like toilet paper. Music and movies could not just toss out the rulebook but act as if it never existed, making up stuff as they went along with the copious assistance of very good dope, a ubiquitous and intoxicating sexual chaos, and a happy disdain for the establishment that's never been equaled. (American youth since then has been mere sheep — *sheep!*)

You could, in short, make movies like *Gold*, make them on your own with a gang of nude trippers in the hills of California, and not be very concerned that the resulting product doesn't make a lick of sense — because it doesn't. Dennis Hopper's *The Last Movie* looks like an accomplishment of concision beside Levis's film (his only one).

Starting out with a crystal-clear suite of iconic '60s images — 'Nam corpses, Kent State bodies, Thomas Merton, police brutality, the Kennedy brothers — that you have to remind yourself were still accumulating when the film was made, *Gold* quickly devolves as you knew it would, like a chess game between unsupervised toddlers. There's a locomotive, a suited conservative jerk trying to reign in all kinds of free love and nudity and indecorous behavior (or at least profit from it), and Del Close as some kind of crippled pilgrim scrambling across the perfectly lovely western countryside.

It seems to be trying for comedy, an almost child-like political satire bordering on the pubescent — or, at least, chemically stupefied. But the quasi-vaudeville nature of the cavorting and luxuriating around with nature studiously avoids being funny. I can't say for sure what's going on, but I can tell you there are mud orgies, raucous skinny-dipping, completely arbitrary cutaways, plenty of full monties, Che Guevara, real cannon blasts, and at least a few instances of what looks like real intercourse. (The soundtrack, it should be noted, is real, noisy psychedelia from MC5, Beastly Times, and Ramblin' Jack Elliott, not the lame faux jazz you usually get in movies from the '60s.)

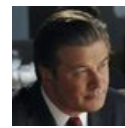
Who wouldn't have wanted to **make** this movie? And that's the large picture: In the Decade of Godard, the authentic experience of making an independent film



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THE EMMYS || BY KYLE BUCHANAN || 07 14 2010 4:20 PM

Emmy Spotlight: Can Alec Baldwin Threepreat as Lead Comedy Actor?



Now that the dust has settled around those Emmy nominations, it's time for Movieline to begin digging into each category to lay down odds for the nominees. Everyone can agree that these year's selections feel fresh and new, but in... [more >](#)

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STEPHANIE SAYS

REVIEWS BY STEPHANIE ZACHAREK



If the career of Christopher Nolan is any indication, we've entered an era in which movies can no longer be great. They can only be awesome, which isn't nearly the same thing...

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Wendie Malick on Hot in Cleveland and the Power of Betty White

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CINEMA SCORECARD
WHAT TO SEE, WHAT TO AVOID

TITLE	SCORE
REVIEW: Is <i>Inception</i> This Year's Masterpiece? Dream On	3
REVIEW: Nicolas Cage's Magic Can't Save <i>Sorcerer's Apprentice</i>	6.5
REVIEW: <i>[REC] 2</i> Just Another Visit to the Horror-Franchise Ghetto	5.5
REVIEW: <i>Despicable Me</i> Delivers With Retro Zest to Spare	9.5

[ALL REVIEWS »](#)

VIRTUAL NEWSSTAND
LAST MONTH AT MOVIELINE



The Verge: Sharni Vinson

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LATEST FROM ONCARS.COM

SEXY BEAST

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FOR THE REST, HEAD TO SEXY BEAST »

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Marshall Fine: Didn't I just see that ...?

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Fanboys Rejoice! Angelina Jolie Will Appear at Comic-Con

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George Eads Signs on for More 'CSI'

Victoria's Secret Model Expecting First Child

Oksana -- Mel is Behind Threatening Phone Calls

'SYTYCD' Robert: 'I danced the disco for Ashley'

Moviefone Minute: 'As the Hulk Turns' Part II and 'Thor' the Musical?

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Martha Stewart, Jimmy Fallon Discuss Double Rainbow Guy (VIDEO)

Kelsey Grammer, Wife Had No Prenup

Mel/Oksana Tapes -- Evidence of Editing

'True Blood' news bites: Episodes 7-11 revealed, HBO peddles reruns and more

Nightly News: Elizabeth Banks Flies to Disney in Live-Action Tinkerbell

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Tracy Morgan Loves Colin Powell, Says Mel Gibson Is 'Hip-Hop' (VIDEO)

Sarah Palin Wants Levi Johnston To Disappear

Oksana To Judge: Strip Mel of Custody ... Now

2010 ESPYs: Seth Meyers takes on Tiger Woods, Elin Nordegren, Kardashians and more

Playing the 'Day X Exists' 'Salt' Web Game: Week 9

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'Top Chef: D.C.' - 'Farm Policy' Recap

Steven Seagal Sexual Harassment Case Dismissed

Lisa Lampanelli -- Returning to Roast The Hoff

Could HBO's 'Luck' extend to other TV collaborations?

Robert Downey Jr. and Zach Galifianakis Take a Road Trip in 'Due Date' Trailer

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Seth Meyers Teases LeBron, Reggie, Tiger at ESPY Awards (VIDEO)

Bristol Palin Recounts Levi's Proposal in Video

ESPY Awards -- Check Out the Expensive Uniforms!

'Deadliest Catch': Josh Harris and Johnathan Hillstrand talk Gulf oil spill

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