

Tango and Cash is violent but funny



By DIAHANN NADEAU
Herald Special

Tango and Cash is a police action yarn in the mold of Lethal Weapon and Die Hard. Like those other films it offers a couple of hours of escapism, violence, and humor. Sly Stallone is no Mel Gibson to look at (or listen to), but on the whole this is an entertaining effort and lots of fun to watch.

Stallone plays Ray Tango, a stellar Beverly Hills detective with a great investment portfolio and beautiful clothes. His biggest rival is Gabriel Cash (Kurt Russell), a cop who wardrobe is more in line with the Salvation Army bins. The two are major thorns in the side of Mr. Porette (Jack Palance), a drug overlord with a fondness for games.

Porette is fed up with the millions in lost revenue their busts have caused him and sets the cops up to take a fall for the death of an

FBI agent. They plea bargain on the advice of their lawyers and are supposed to be sent to a country club prison. Instead they land someplace that makes Attica look tempting. After grisly tortures and near death they escape and go gunning for Porette.

The whole piece is pure fantasy, from the opening chase scene where Tango says he's no Rambo ("Rambo is a pussy" he asserts), to the closing apocalypse in drug territory. These guys never stop joking even when faced with 600 pound men who intend to make them their love slaves.

Stallone shows he can laugh at himself here, which is refreshing. Russell is funny, and the two work well together. Tango and Cash is a fun film, violent, but firmly tongue in cheek.

John Kerr became a legal eagle

By Dick Kleiner

Q. Recently I enjoyed seeing several mid-1950s films again in which John Kerr starred. Whatever happened to him? He was so good in "South Pacific" and "Tea and Sympathy." — B.R.L., Chattanooga, Tenn.

A. Kerr (he pronounced it Cur, rather than the Carr that Deborah Kerr preferred) was actually more active in TV than in theatrical films. He was a mainstay of live TV when that art flourished, and he was on several series — including three years as a district attorney in "Peyton Place." All the while, he was studying law on the side, and he finally passed the bar exam. So he quit acting and is now practicing law.

Q. Are you familiar with a made-for-TV movie called "The Ewok Adventure"? There was a very pretty young girl in the movie named Cindel.

What I need is the correct spelling of that name. My daughter is having a baby soon and, if it is a girl, she would like to name her Cindel or Cindle or whatever it is. — J.L., Amarillo, Texas.

A. Cindel is the correct spelling. The character was Cindel Towani, played by Audrey Miller.

Q. Was "Home in Indiana" the only film Lon McCallister made? And what happened to him? — M.G., Reynolds, Ind.

A. No, Lon made dozens of films in the '30s and '40s, including "Babes in Arms," "Henry Aldrich for President," "Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hay!"

and "A Yank in Korea." He became wealthy through shrewd real estate investments and left the acting business for business business. He is 66 today and living the good life.



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