

# Talking with JESSICA LANGE

## STAR SPEAK



FRANK SANELLO

Jessica Lange, 40, has come a long way since she sat in King Kong's paw in that escapist Hollywood-fantasy back in 1976. Since then, she's become one of the film industry's most respected actresses.

It took five years, but Lange finally put the big ape behind her: In 1981, she became a talent to contend with in "The Postman Always Rings Twice."

Her steamy on-screen sparring with Jack Nicholson in "Postman" led to roles in "Frances" and "Tootsie," which earned her the rare honor of being nominated in 1983 for two Oscars in the same year.

Born in Cloquet, Minn., Lange spent two years studying acting at the University of Minnesota before moving to Paris. There she studied mime and danced in the chorus of the Opera Comique.

Back in the United States, she made an unsuccessful stab at modeling before being discovered by film producer Dino De Laurentiis, who tapped her to play King Kong's inamorata.



Jessica Lange

In recent years, Lange has had two children — a daughter, Hannah, and a son, Samuel — with actor-playwright Sam Shepard. A previous relationship, with dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov, resulted in a daughter, Shura.

The actress' current film, "Music Box," casts her as a Chicago attorney defending her father against charges of Nazi war crimes.

Q. During the filming of "Music Box," was it difficult for you to interpret a character whose father was accused of being a Nazi war criminal?

A. Every part I play is an emotional

voyage. But this role had nothing I could relate to in my own life. No betrayal in my life could compare to what happened to this woman.

Q. It's a real departure from your roles in the comic "Crimes of the Heart" or the country-western film bio "Sweet Dreams." Did you have to switch gears to play an attorney in "Music Box"?

A. I approached "Music Box" differently from any other film I've worked on. I wanted to throw away everything I had learned and try something dangerous for me: Instead of relying on technique, I wanted to approach (the film) as a child playing a game — make a synthesis between the character and myself.

**"Every part I play is an emotional voyage."**

— Jessica Lange

I felt this was the most effortless work I'd ever done. At one point, I felt I was no longer driving the character, that it had taken on a life of its own.

Q. How did you originally get involved with "Music Box"?

A. They sent me the script. I loved it — but I had some problems with it, which they resolved. Basically, the ending of the first draft was much more sensational, and they toned it down in later drafts.

Q. There are so many other films now that deal with the Holocaust. Are you afraid "Music Box" will get lost in the crush?

A. I don't see it as a Holocaust film. To me it's a love story, an exploration of a daughter's love for her father and the loyalty she feels toward him.

Q. There's been a lot of press lately that the Holocaust is a tough sell to movie audiences.

A. "Music Box" won't appeal to the Stallone set or fans of "Raiders of the

Lost Ark" or "Roger Rabbit." I don't know who it will appeal to.

Q. You make your films in such exotic locations. "Music Box" was partially shot in Hungary. Does your career keep you away from your family?

A. I just pack up the kids and take them with me wherever I go. I'm still away from them during the day, during shooting. But I'm lucky I don't have a year-round 9-to-5 job where I'd be away every day. This way, it's just three months of craziness (during filming), then the rest of the year we're together as a family.

Q. Before you became a star, you studied mime in Paris. Do you ever use that training to help you interpret a role?

A. Not consciously. Every once in a while I'll use something (from mime), but most of the time it just translates into a physical awareness of my body.

Q. One thing I always wanted to ask you: If Frances Farmer was indeed lobotomized as the movie "Frances" claims, how did she go on to host a local talk show in Indianapolis in the 1950s?

A. She had a prefrontal lobotomy, which removes emotions, imagination. You can still function as a human being after that kind of lobotomy, but the magic's gone.

Q. When you were nestling in King Kong's giant paw, did you ever think that some day you'd be mentioned in the same breath as Sally Field, Meryl Streep and Jane Fonda?

A. Absolutely. Without a doubt. Nobody else did at the time — but I did.



**IS YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO GET MORE ACTIVE?**

Join our classes and learn a new and exciting sport.

**SCUBA DIVING**

CLASSES START JAN. 21st AT THE GEORGETOWN INDOOR POOL FOR ONLY **\$9900**

**Groundhog Divers**

Victoria & York Plaza  
232 Victoria Rd. S., Guelph

CALL COLLECT (519) 763-Dive

**the HERALD MUSIC TRIVIA CONTEST**

You Could Win A Record Or Tape Of Your Choice! (In-Stock Items Only)

QUESTION:  
What pop singer has a song about "not starting a fire" which is currently on the charts

ANSWER: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline For Entries: Monday at Noon

Please Send Your Entries To:  
**the HERALD**  
45 GUELPH ST. GEORGETOWN L7G 3Z8

PRIZE COURTESY OF **MOBILE SOUND SYSTEMS**  
Mike Pepper Scott Reis  
71 Mountainview Rd. N. Unit 1  
877-1688

# The Baron's adventures are indeed amazing

By DIAHANN NADEAU  
Herald Special

The Adventures of Baron Munchausen: Terry Gilliam (Time Bandits, Brazil) directs this fantasy about the amazing adventures of the famous Baron Von Munchausen. (Munchausen really did exist, lived in the 18th century, and was legendary for his exaggerated tales.) It stars John Neville as the Baron, with Gilliam's fellow Pythoner Eric Idle as a speedy servant, Oliver Reed as Vulcan, and Uma Thurman as Venus.

The story starts out on a Monty Python note — we are informed that it is "The 18th Century - The Rational Century - Wednesday." On this Wednesday the Turks have besieged a European city and a troupe of actors valiantly struggles to put on a play in the midst of chaos. The city's leader, an insane rationalist (Jonathan Pryce) who puts a soldier to death for bravery (Sting, in a very brief appearance) because such courage will demoralize the other soldiers, is in the audience. The play is about Baron Munchausen, and all is going rather badly when the real Baron enters.

The Baron claims that he is the cause of the Turkish attack and undertakes to stop it. This involves a trip to the moon in a hot air balloon made with ladies' knickers, with a little girl who has stowed away (Sarah Polley). He finds his aging servants and returns to Europe ready to destroy the enemy.

This is a visually splendid movie, a romp through time and space that is well-suited to the young at heart. Neville is grand, and the

humor is a combination of wry observation and crazy effects. It is just what you'd expect of Terry Gilliam, the man behind the Python cartoons.

Criminal Law: Gary Oldman stars as a clever lawyer who demolishes eyewitness testimony to get his client off a murder charge. Soon after Martin (Kevin Bacon) is back on the streets (or in his paternal home) another gruesome murder is committed. It quickly becomes clear that Martin is indeed guilty.

Ben (Oldman) agrees to defend him again in case of another charge. He intends to get close enough to Martin to get the evidence the police are desperate for. The two engage in a cat and mouse game that has fatal consequences.

End of the Line: This is a lovely little film about the closing of an Arkansas railway yard. Wilfred Brimley and the Band's Levon Helm star as two workers who decide this is unacceptable and hijack an engine to Chicago in order to talk to the company's chairman.

End of the Line is replete with gentle humor and memorable characters.

The above movies were supplied through courtesy of Country Video.

**PERFORMERS WANTED**

\*\*\*

SINGERS, DANCERS AND ACTORS to appear in

**Globe Productions Dinner Theatre**

"Just Go To The Movies"

May 3, 4, 5 & 9, 10, 11, 12

NO PAY. BUT LOTS OF FUN!

Auditions will be held on Fri. & Sat., Jan. 12th & 13th

FOR AUDITION APPOINTMENT Call 877-4527

\*\*\*

Rehearsals start February 6th on Tues. & Fri. Evenings and Sunday afternoons

**PHOTO REPRINTS**

Available at The Herald Office in either 8"x10" or 5"x7" Sizes.

**theHERALD**

45 Guelph St., Georgetown — 877-2201

**GTR TAPES & CDs**

Join Our Exclusive... "GTR TAPE & CD CLUB"

Ask us for details on how our bonuses will help you increase your tape and or CD collection in the 1990's.

**AEROSMITH** \$9.99 CASSETTE  
Pump \$18.99 CD

**ERIC CLAPTON** \$9.99 CASSETTE \$17.99 CD  
Journeyman

**PHIL COLLINS** \$9.99 CASSETTE \$17.99 CD  
...But Seriously

**YOUNG MC** \$9.99 CASSETTE \$18.99 CD  
Stone Cold Rhymin'

**RICHARD MARX** \$9.99 CASSETTE \$18.99 CD  
Repeat Offender

LOTS MORE IN-STORE SPECIALS AT GREAT PRICES!

**GTR TAPES & CDs** 310 Guelph Street Unit 5, Georgetown (Behind Pizza Hut)

**HALTON HILLS TAXI**

110 MILL ST., GEORGETOWN ONTARIO L7G 2C9

DIVISION OF HALTON HILLS HOLDING LTD

877-1234

877-7400 AIRPORT SERVICE

877-9311 PARCEL DELIVERY

**BURGER KING** 235 Guelph St. Georgetown 877-3642

**THEY'RE COMING** Mon., Jan. 22nd **APPLE & CHERRY PIES**