

# Entertainment

## Movie Review

# Pacific Heights described as 'psychological thriller'

By DIAHANN NADEAU  
Herald Special

Pacific Heights is a psychological thriller from director John Schlesinger (Madame Sousatzka). Starring Melanie Griffith, Matthew Modine, and Michael Keaton, Heights is unevenly paced, abruptly directed, and not as good as it should be. However, it has its moments, and Melanie Griffith alone makes it watchable.

Modine and Griffith play Drake and Patty, a yuppie couple buying their first home in San Francisco. It's a big Victorian fixer-upper, and after a lot of hard work (mostly done by handy Patty), the two apartments on the lower level are ready to rent. A nice Japanese couple rents one, while the seemingly loaded Carter Hayes (Keaton) moves into the other.

A landlord's worst nightmare quickly evolves: Hayes does not rent - his deposit never arrives. He moves in, changes the locks, and gets the police on his side. The pro-

cess of eviction is a long and costly one in California, as our couple soon discovers. In the meantime, Hayes spends all his time drilling and hammering and no one can get in to see what he's up to.

He plays a mean psychological game to unnerve Drake, goading him into violent acts to land him in jail. What is the point of Hayes's actions? Is he just a nut-case, a pathological liar, a psychotic out to destroy Drake and Patty? Or is this all part of a deliberate plan with a rational goal in mind? Well, it seems it's a lot of both.

The plot should guarantee some scary moments, but somehow it never delivers. The movie only picks up in the last half hour, when Patty takes charge and approaches the enemy in a cool and logical manner. It's nice to have the woman be the brains and the brawn in a film, and Griffith, despite her soft looks and voice, manages to be convincing in the role of the savior.

Griffith certainly steals the picture here. Determined and level-headed as Patty, a pleasure to look at, she makes the movie her own. Modine is innocuous as always as Drake. Even when he's angrily pounding on Keaton, he doesn't seem to really be there. Modine is amiable enough, but there never seems to be a person you can actually identify. He is one of the nose faceless actors around.

Michael Keaton plays Hayes with a frightening intensity in his eyes, insanity riding just below the surface. Yet it is not a memorable performance, perhaps because of the role and the way his screen time is used. Other actors include Dorian Harewood as a friend, Rosanne's Laurie Metcalf as a lawyer, and a quick cameo by Griffith's mother, Tippi Hedren, as Florence Peters, Keaton's next prey.

Pacific Heights is a serviceable thriller, but it is not going to be on anyone's top ten list. It might give landlords nightmares, but it won't hit anyone else that hard.

# "The Tribe" specializes in funk and punk music

The name of the Georgetown-based progressive funk band "The Tribe" reflects the band's togetherness and the different musical backgrounds each member brings to the band, said Chris Burrell, the band's bass player.

It's this variety of musical influences that allows the band to play what Chris sums up as a "combination of jazz funk and a little punk."

Fresh from performing at the Rock Against Drugs Concert Sunday at the Georgetown Fairgrounds, the band is scheduled to perform at the El Macombo at

the end of this month. Calling the Toronto breakthrough a "big thing," Chris said, the band is hoping the show will lead to other performances in the all important Toronto area.

Next, the band plans to make a demo tape that it will shop around to the major record labels in the hope of landing a recording contract, he said.

The band, which has been together for seven months, plays originals with the exception of the odd cover song, said Chris. "But when we play covers we interpret them to make them are own," he said.

The quartet is comprised of Chris Burrell, bass; Chris Quinn, drums; James Lowry, guitar; and Gerry Turple, vocals. Except for Gerry Turple who lives in Rockwood the group members live in Georgetown.

All have been active members of the band scene in the area for a number of years, said Chris Burrell.

He stresses the band is out to have a good time. "We're not preachy," he said. But that doesn't mean the band doesn't take the music seriously, saying the band tries to write songs of substance.

As one of the band's founding members, Chris Burrell hoped that the band would eventually make its home in Europe. But that wasn't feasible so the band now plans to eventually move to Toronto or Montreal, he said.

There is no music scene in Georgetown, Chris explained, so the only way to get exposure is to move to a bigger city.

It's too bad there's no audience for local bands in the area because there are a lot of good bands here, said Burrell.



It looks as if local rock band The Tribe are set to make the big time. Fresh from their performance during the Rock Against Drugs concert Sunday at the Georgetown Fairgrounds, the group has upcoming dates at Toronto clubs the El Mocambo and at Under the Marquis. The group calls it's music progressive funk. Members of the quartet include (top) James Lowry, guitar; (left) Chris Burrell, bass; (forefront) Gerry Turple, vocals; and (right) Chris Quinn, drums. (Photo submitted)

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