

'Gimme Shelter' Finds Home in Durham

By RUSS LANE
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

The film "Gimme Shelter" documents the final leg of the Rolling Stones' 1969 tour, ending with audience member Meredith Parker's death at the hands of Hell's Angels at California's Altamont Speedway.

Tonight, Durham's Carolina Theatre presents a remastered version of "Gimme Shelter," beginning its weeklong celebration for the film's 30th anniversary.

The film boasts remastered sound, negatives and additional scenes originally cut to give the film a PG rating in 1970, which will provide a treat for fans,

said Alexandra Parker, head of distribution at Maysle Films.

"The sound is so great, that's one of the best parts of the rerelease," she said. "I wanted to give something back to the film that I've loved for ages."

To some, the chances of the Carolina Theatre showing the film might seem like an long-shot opportunity since the film opened in New York Aug. 11 to a sold-out crowd.

But Director of Programming Jim Carl said the theater's programmers were asked to show the film, an offer they enthusiastically accepted.

"Gimme Shelter" is one of the most famous rock musicals put to film," he

said. "I think the only films that compare are Pink Floyd's 'The Wall' and The Beatles' 'Hard Days Night.'"

Charlotte Zwerin, who co-directed the film with documentary pioneers Albert and David Maysle, said she structured the film to be more than a concert film, turning the film footage into a story capturing the tour's chaos and bringing the film to a climax with Parker's death.

"That's the reason you see Charlie Watts at the beginning of the film listening to (Hell's Angel and Altamont security guard) Sonny Barten," she said. "You need to know that incident from the beginning."

Both Watts and Mick Jagger's reac-

tions to Altamont footage are shown throughout "Gimme Shelter." Although the pair look visibly shaken in the film, Zwerin said the film is not intended to be a close look at the band. "It's not an intimate portrait of the Stones at all," she said. "The band was nice but nervous because they were seriously criticized for the events at Altamont."

Now that the film is being redistributed, Zwerin said she was honored by the public's continued interest in the film and thought the remastering was worth a second look at the film.

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.



A remastered version of "Gimme Shelter," a documentary of the Rolling Stones' 1969 tour, is showing at the Carolina Theatre this week.

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Carrboro to Host World Music Concert

Saturday's World Music Extravaganza will feature 15 performers and benefit a Chapel Hill-based label.

By ASHLEY ATKINSON
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Carrboro might seem an unlikely place for a gathering of some of the most talented world musicians from across the globe.

But when the Chapel Hill-based record label Music of the World presents a benefit World Music Extravaganza on Saturday, the ArtsCenter will play host to 15 artists from Africa, India, Europe, the Middle

East, the Far East and the United States.

The concert is the first of its kind for the Triangle area and a rarity for most U.S. venues. "There have never been so many musicians from so many different cultures gathered together on the same evening," said Bob Haddad, who founded Music of the World in 1984.

The musicians are performing for free, and proceeds will benefit struggling artists on the Music of the World label.

Music of the World is one of the major forces in traditional and contemporary world music, having gained an international reputation and critical acclaim since its founding in 1984.

While many college students might turn up their noses at the idea of world music, Haddad said the performance will have a wide appeal.

"It's not going to be an ethnic music concert by any stretch of the imagination," as several well-known Western musicians will perform as well, he said.

Even so, Haddad stressed that traditional music is the source of all other forms of music popular today. "Traditional African music turns into gospel; from there it goes into blues, then to R&B, then to rock and jazz," he said. "So for someone who says, 'Oh, African music, that's ethnic,' that's like saying rock and roll is ethnic."

And music continues to grow and share influences across cultures, he said, "so if people are open-minded and eager to learn about how it has progressed through chronology and given birth to different genres," they should come to the performance.

Traditional musicians will include Persian setar player Sheil Zolfonun, Cambodian musician Sam-Ang Sam, Indian drummer Manik Munde and Bulgarian gaida player Gyorgi Doichev.

Musicians performing contemporary world music include master percussion-

ist Glen Velez, Grammy-winning harmonica player Howard Levy and multi-instrumentalist Steve Gorn.

In April, EMusic.com, the leading seller of downloadable music, acquired Music of the World. As part of the acquisition, Haddad joined EMusic.com as a creative consultant. The Music of the World catalog, which includes the Nomad and Latitudes sublabels in addition to its over 80 titles, will be rereleased under license to other labels.

"Music is the commonality between different cultures," Haddad said. "The closer we get to each other, the smaller the world becomes and the more culture we share. The closer we get to a common culture, the closer we are, if you want to take the humanitarian angle, to world peace."

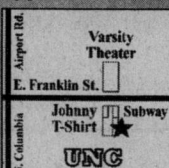
Tickets are \$22 for students. Any seats remaining 45 minutes beforehand will be available to students for \$5. A reception with the artists will follow.

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.

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