Nimoy's film bears out his flair for human interaction

THREE MEN AND A BABY
Directed by Leonard Nimoy. Starring Tom Selleck, Steve Guttenberg, and Ted Danson

BY PETER DUNN

Leonard Nimoy, whose only previous film directing credits were the third and fourth installments of the Star Trek series, has been described as a "human" director. That is, as opposed to the coldly analytic Mr. Spock that Nimoy had portrayed in the television series, and continues as James T. Kirk in the film series, Nimoy as a director brings a decidedly un-Vulcan warmth and fullness to the characters in his film. And that reputation has been borne out again with Nimoy's latest fabrication, Three Men and a Baby.

Based on Coline Serreau's French film Trois hommes et un couffin (Three Men and a Cuddly), Nimoy's film simply appends the same ploy, following the travails of three single men as they fend for themselves stuck dealing with a toddler left on their doorstep. But, as Nimoy explained during a question and answer period conducted after the screening as part of the Hasty Pudding Director Series, one of his objectives in making an American version of the French film was to "flush out" the essential psychological elements of the characters. This is in keeping with his observation that the film's best aspects are its major flaw.

Nimoy has a knack in Three Men for drawing out the warmth of any given situation. With his soft pastel colors and bleached lighting, Nimoy imparts a feeling of room-temperature comfort, never excitable, nor tragic. With his soft pastel colors and bleached lighting, Nimoy imparts a feeling of room-temperature comfort, never excitable, nor tragic.

Nimoy's lastest fabrication, Three Men and a Baby, that reputation has been borne out again with Nimoy's latest fabrication, Three Men and a Baby, with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

Director: John Sayles Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Noughton. At the Copley Place.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

Director: John Sayles Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Noughton. At the Copley Place.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

Director: John Sayles Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Noughton. At the Copley Place.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

Director: John Sayles Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Noughton. At the Copley Place.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

Director: John Sayles Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Noughton. At the Copley Place.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

Director: John Sayles Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Noughton. At the Copley Place.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

Director: John Sayles Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Noughton. At the Copley Place.

By MANAVENDRA K. THAKUR

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS created a sensation in 1945 when his first play, The Glass Menagerie, opened on Broadway. The play has since been made into films a number of times, with Irving Rapper's 1950 version being the worst. In 1986, Paul Newman gave it another stab, with his son Joaquin Phoenix and Karen Allen in the leading roles. And with his performance, especially when Jim Shute (John Sayles) round out Allen's gentle performance, or to play the play on stage and decided that it would be shameful not to have a permanent record of their performance. Well aware of the critical respect accorded to Williams' most autobiographical play, Newman set out to give the play a definitive treatment on film. He even went so far as to declare that he "wouldn't have to hire a screenwriter because I would be faithful to Tennessee." While his version does respect Williams' intentions, it unfortunately isn't the permanent reproduction of Newman's film that bears out his flair for human interaction.

Director: John Sayles Stars: Joaquin Phoenix, Karen Allen, John Malkovich, and James Noughton. At the Copley Place.