

REEL REVIEWS

★★★★★ **Brazil**
Center Theater

Where does one begin? "Brazil" is a dizzying and terrifying achievement of the imagination. It is a bizarre blend of "Walter Mitty, 1984," and Monty Python, with a dash of acid thrown in for good measure.

The story is set "somewhere in the 20th century." The government has become monstrously bureaucratic and life seems miserable. It is especially bad for Archibald Buttle, because the Ministry of Information has made a mistake (they're only human, you know) and sent out an order to arrest him instead of an Archibald Tuttle (Robert DeNiro), a rebellious heating engineer.

Jill (Kim Greist), a neighbor who realizes a mistake has been made, tries to prod the bureaucracy into admitting its error and returning poor Mr. Buttle. Her efforts are useless, but during one of her visits to the M.O.I. she is seen by our hero, Sam Lowry (Johnathan Pryce).

Sam is an unambitious man who constantly daydreams about rescuing a damsel in distress, and his dream girl looks exactly like Jill. His efforts to find Jill and win her over, and his concurrent discovery of a (possible) rebellion led by Mr. Tut-

Poor					★
Fair				★	★
Good			★	★	★
Very Good	★	★	★	★	★
Excellent	★	★	★	★	★

tle are the main focus of the film.

This fantasy/comedy/tragedy has an absolutely brilliant ending that is both funny and sad, both

unnerving and uplifting, for "Brazil" is that rarest of films. It is not universally appealing. It is universally arousing, and whether it arouses laughter or pity or anger or confusion or disgust or exhilaration depends entirely on the person seeing it.

By Michael Giltz

★★★★★ **Murphy's Romance**
Royal Park Cinema 4

James Garner is Murphy Jones, a celebrated character in the small Southwestern town where he was born and raised. Murphy's the type of old cowboy who's content to run the local drug store, play fiddle at the tavern down the street, and who would rather pay \$220 in parking fines than not park his antique car illegally in front of his own store.

But the real reason Murphy is so well-loved in this small town is because he remains, despite