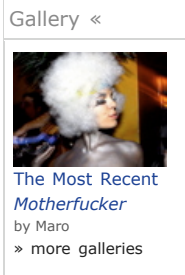




keyword search News NYC Life Eats Music Film Arts People Classifieds About Us

- Daily Voice <<
- Sound of the City**
CMJ: Wednesday Night
Picks, Day 2,
10.17.07 <<
1:49 pm
 - Eat for Victory**
Our Man Sietsema:
The Best of New
York <<
1:39 pm
 - Runnin' Scared**
Diddy's Confessional
Rap? <<
12:45 pm
 - Bush Beat**
Bush's Buddha Road
Show <<
8:45 am
 - Status Ain't Hood**
Brihan vs. Harvilla:
Does Indie-Rock Need
Rhythm? <<
Tuesday
>> more blogs

- Podcasts <<
- La Dolce Musto**
Apocalypse Musto
 - Status Ain't Hood**
Going to the Chapel
 - Cover Story**
On the Taco Trail



- NYC Guide <<
- More than Pupusas at Uptown Salvadoran**
by Robert Sietsema
 - best of nyc

Film

[write to the editor](#) | [email a friend](#) | [print article](#) | [comment](#)

A Fistful of Pierogies

How do you say 'wanted dead or alive' in Polish?

by **J. Hoberman**

October 16th, 2007 11:48 AM

The first feature by the conceptual Polish artist Piotr Uklanski, *Summer Love* is a mock spaghetti western that manages to be both parody and homage, albeit less western than spaghetti. Or rather "kielbasa," to use the term that's been applied to the 50 or so amateur oat-operas made over the past two decades by Uklanski's countryman Josef Klyk.

Beginning with its vertiginous opening shoot-out, *Summer Love* is characterized by some credibly mad filmmaking. Uklanski is adept at playing the angles, both in terms of camera placement and genre derangement. Val Kilmer is present as the obligatory American star: His character is known as the Wanted Man, and he's a corpse, and a potentially valuable one, for the entire movie. The other players are drawn mainly from the Polish stage, although Boguslaw Linda, who plays the world-weary Sheriff, will be familiar to fans of Andrzej Wajda and Krzysztof Kieslowski. The cast speaks heavily accented English and looks subtly off—too beaten-down to be real cowboys. (Uklanski is a student of iconography: His most famous piece is a photographic installation of glamorous male movie stars costumed in Nazi regalia.)

Summer Love, however cheerfully titled, is essentially an angst-ridden *kammerspiel*. The Stranger (Karel Roden) rides into town with the Wanted Man's corpse and gambles away his bounty before he can even collect it. Most of the action is confined to a miserable one-room saloon amusingly named the French Palace—a place of buzzing flies and perpetual rain, where grizzled plug-uglies mumble into their vodka and make leering passes at the tough, ample barmaid (Katarzyna Figura). Space is elastic, with exterior locations cleverly constructed out of an abandoned quarry and what appears to be a stretch of Baltic beach doubling as the desert. The twangy musical score takes a respite from faux Morricone-isms to

Summer Love

Written and directed by Piotr Uklanski
October 17 through December 9
Whitney Museum

[more film](#) | [most popular](#) | [most commented](#)

- Klimt*
Tracking Shots by Ella Taylor
- O Jerusalem*
Tracking Shots by Ella Taylor
- 30 Days of Night*
Tracking Shots by Rober
- Rendition*
Tracking Shots by Ella Taylor
- Trigger Man*
Tracking Shots by Scott Foundas
- Motherfucker, the Party Pics*
by Maro
- New York Leather Weekend*
by Tina Zimmer
- How Much Piss Can You Drink Without Getting Sick?*
Savage Love by Dan Savage
- 30 Days of Night*
Tracking Shots by Rober
- Rockie's Daily Forecast*
by Rockie
- Runnin' Scared: A Black Arts Center in Brooklyn Will Get Bulldozed for a Paler Version* (4)
Runnin' Scared: Chloe A. Hilliard
- Hillary's Infidelity: Clinton Drops Bill's Cuban Advances for a More Hardline Approach* (4)
Kirk Nielsen
- Arcade Fire/LCD Soundsystem at Randall's Island* (4)
Andy Beta
- Lynn Yaeger: A Fashion Week for Plus Sized Women* (4)
Lynn Yaeger: Lynn Yaeger
- Reviews: Bruce Springsteen Coasts on Magic* (3)
Reviews: Amy Linden

"Most Popular" tools brought to you by:



BOOKMARK



classifieds | backpage.com | Post ads for free!

real estate	30,647	adult	5,143
employment	7,112	personals	1,398
buy, sell, trade	3,599	musicians	3,098

Last Updated: Oct 17, 4:00 pm EDT

- Village Voice E-mail Sign Up <<
- the weekly villagevoice.com
 - the weekly freebies and special offers
 - the daily "what to do in NYC" e-mail
 - information on the performing arts



- [eats](#)
- [drinks](#)
- [shopping](#)
- [film](#)
- [music](#)
- [events](#)
- [home](#)

incorporate the deadpan insanity of Lorne Greene's 1966 ballad "I Am a Gun."

The western trappings become increasingly alien as the movie evolves, spasm by spasm, into a ritual played out around and about Kilmer's increasingly mutilated body—the drama's written in blood, sweat, and tears, among other bodily secretions, on the faux desert sands. With its scaffolding and half-wrecked buildings, Uklanski's set comes to resemble a derelict performance site. The artist has a sardonic sense of apocalypse: *Summer Love* reaches its sodden climax when the gallows under construction for most of the movie comes crashing through the French Palace roof, and the Sheriff reduces the reward for the Wanted Man to a frugal \$250.



Restaurants

TONIC EAST

[View Ad](#) | [View Site](#)

FRIEND HOUSE ASIAN BISTRO

[View Ad](#) | [View Site](#)

RAPTURE LOUNGE

[View Ad](#) | [View Site](#)

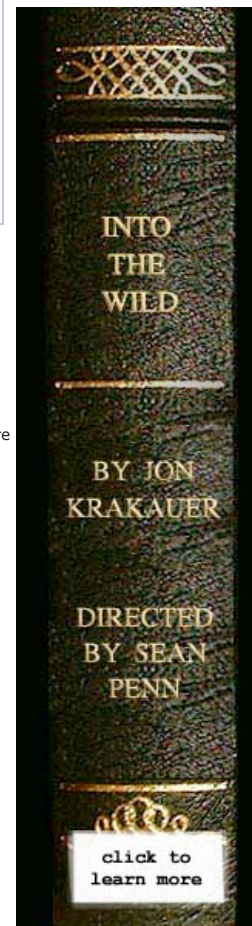
1849 RESTAURANT BAR PARLOR

[View Ad](#) | [View Site](#)

[More »](#)

the Village **VOICE**

advertise with us



Fall Guide 2007

Village Voice 2007 Fall Guide: Art Bites

Promotions <

Rob Bell

Enter to win Rob Bell's books, VELVET ELVIS and SEX GOD!

Van Hunt

Enter to win tickets to see Van Hunt at B.B. King Blues Club and Grill!

Reservation Road

Be one of the first 50 people to sign-up and receive a pass good for two an advance screening of the film!

Jazz Improv LIVE!

ENTER TO WIN FULL CONFERENCE PASSES TO JAZZ IMPROV LIVE! - CONVENTION & FESTIVAL 2007

DRUM OF THE WAVES OF HORIKAWA

Enter for your chance to win a pair of tickets to this new production at HERE Arts Center!

The Village Voice Education Supplement

On Streets November 14!

Crown Point Festival

ENTER TO WIN PASSES TO THE CROWN POINT FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK'S LOWER EAST SIDE!

Bodies The

Exhibition
VILLAGE VOICE READERS SAVE \$6 PER TICKET ON BODIES. . . THE EXHIBITION

More by J. Hoberman

Social Suicide

In *Wristcutters*, the afterlife is just a lousier version of real life. Oh, and Tom Waits is there.

Wristcutters: A Love Story

Blow It Up

How Jean-Luc Godard made history when French intellectuals ruled the world
La Chinoise and *Terror's Advocate*

MOMI Does Desplechin

Plus: *Cranes* flies at BAM

Pro-Debate

17 years in the making, Tony Kaye's epic abortion doc *Lake of Fire*. Plus: Gays and God in *For the Bible Tells Me So*
Lake of Fire, For the Bible Tells Me So

Fight Them Over There

Peter Berg turns Jamie Foxx loose in Saudi Arabia; things blow up
The Kingdom

[write a comment](#)

[home](#) | [news](#) | [nyc life](#) | [music](#) | [film](#) | [arts](#) | [people](#) | [i.i. voice](#) | [about](#) | [contact](#) | [store](#) | [rss](#)

[other VVM publications](#)

Copyright © 2007 Village Voice LLC, 36 Cooper Square, New York, NY 10003 The Village Voice and Voice are registered trademarks of Village Voice Media Holdings, LLC. All rights reserved. [View our privacy policy.](#)



[» click here to see more...](#)



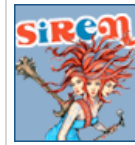
Places & Spaces 2007
Hip Neighborhoods, Unique
Properties, Innovative Designs

[» click here to see more...](#)



**The Village Voice Fall 2007
Education Supplement**
Rookie Teacher Nightmares
The Hardest Lessons
Our Course Catalog

[» click here to see more...](#)



**The Village Voice Siren Music
Festival**
Your guide to New York's Hottest
Indie Rock Music Fest

[» click here to see more...](#)