



THE VISIT: Valerie Buhagiar and Michael Hogan.
Photo: Vera Frantisak

sion, no smiled excuses. Murder also lets Yves preserve that essential image of himself as inviolable.

Seeing all this on screen, it's hard not wonder: where's Fassbinder when we really need him?

Will Aitkin is a Montreal film critic, novelist and former contributor to the original Take One.

SHORT

The Heart of a Viking: The Story of Joe Boyle

Directed, written, produced and narrated by Pat Patterson. 16mm/ video, 23 mins.

Reviewed by Pat Thompson

Col. Joseph Whiteside Boyle: "King of the Klondike," "Saviour of Romania," was born in Toronto, 1867, and raised in Woodstock, Ontario. Boyle was a colourful entrepreneur who started gold prospecting in 1899, and later formed the Canadian Klondike Mining

Company. Flora, one of Joe's two children interviewed in the 80s, recalls his return to

Woodstock accompanied by an Indian guide and a four-dog team, and also a splendid vacation in Bear Creek, Yukon, when she was 11-years-old. A friend vividly recollects Joe as "an opportunist who never let a chance go by."

At the start of World War 1 Boyle was 47, but he raised and paid for a 50-man machine gun unit. By 1917, he ended up in Romania, close to starvation, yet he offered help to Queen Marie of Romania. Her daughter, the Crown Princess, interviewed in a convent, remembers that Boyle ran an intelligence network, and in spite of the German occupation, wore his uniform at all times. Boyle, whom the Crown Princess called "the greatest Romanian I have ever known," suffered a stroke at 51 and lived his final years in England, poor in health and in finances, dying April 14, 1923. Queen Marie sent a headstone from Romania for the grave. Boyle's body was returned to Woodstock where he was finally buried in the family grave, with full military honours, on June 29, 1983—60 years after his death.

A short but fascinating glimpse of an unknown Canadian character, neatly put together with archive material and personal reminiscences.

Pat Thompson is the editor of Film Canada Yearbook.

SHORT

In Search of Joy

Directed, written and produced by Isabel Fryszberg and Tracy Thomson. 16mm/video, 26 mins.

Reviewed by Pat Thompson

Two first-time filmmakers ponder on how people create joy in their lives. An exotic storyteller strolls city streets collecting many opinions, watching children and adults at play, and listening to varied music. Snippets of interviews with a baker, "I fell in love with the dough. I treat it kindly," a gifted wheelchair dancer, a serious Jungian therapist, are but a few of the people talking "joy." During filming, the fathers of both filmmakers died, and they managed to work out their grief and sense of loss before the camera. We see them realize that to experience true joy one must be open to suffering. The film is perhaps a little too "crammed with incident," but for a first effort, it's lively, full of movement music from klezmer to soca and Celtic, and makes you want to smile.

SHORT

The Visit

Directed and written by Markham Cook, with Michael Hogan, Valerie Buhagiar and Earl Pastko. 16mm/video, 26 mins.

Reviewed by Pat Thompson

A man visits a grave in a small town cemetery. Afterwards he goes to an ordinary café which is on the point of closing, but the young waitress lets him in. A spiky conversation ensues and unravels a skein of memory on each side. The man's friend was a talented but undiscovered artist whose grave he had just visited. The waitress knows who the man is—she was the artist's girlfriend. In this small setting, with the aid of flashbacks, the tension