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KING OF THE MONSTERS

**NEW KING KONG
MOVIE-- IS IT A HIT
OR A MISS?**

**EXCLUSIVE!
KONG ON STAGE!**

**GODZILLA, SUPER
STAR OF THE 70's**

**KONGA & THE
MONSTER
MENAGERIE**

KOGAR THE APE & LOTS MORE!



The 40-foot KING KONG, Paramount's new superstar ...

KING OF THE MONSTERS

APRIL No. 1

4 THE NEW KING KONG IS HERE!
By John Christopher

11 KONG KING KOMIX
Illustrated Monster Strip

15 THE CRATER LAKE MONSTER IS COMING!
Al Satian Previews A New Monster Sensation

16 KONG ALIVE: AGAIN & AGAIN & AGAIN
Sequel Movies By Don Wigal

23 KING KONG ON THE STAGE
Exclusive Report By Rick Talcove

24 GODZILLA, SUPERHERO OF THE 70s
Don Glut Goes To The Saturday Matinee

29 KING KONG ON RADIO
The Wireless Ape By Jim Harmon

30 CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF APES
By Dallas Judson

39 MONSTER MENAGERIE
Beast-Man Films By Edward Connor

40 HERMAN COHEN'S "KONGA"
Special Collectors Movie Program

46 INFRA-MAN VS THE VOLCANO MONSTERS
New Horrors Unleashed By Joseph Brenner

54 HARRYHAUSEN: KING DYNAMATOR
AT WORK
By Roger McWilliams

61 SANCTUM REVIEWS
Latest Books By Ron Haydock

62 LEMON GROVE KIDS MEET THE MONSTERS
The Mad Mummy & Kogar The Ape On The Loose



COVER ILLUSTRATION BY DEAN THOMPSON

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THE NEW KING KONG

HERE AT LAST! DINO DE LAURENTIIS' SPECTACULAR MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR COLOR REMAKE OF THE CLASSIC STORY OF BEAUTY AND THE BEAST! BUT IS IT BETTER THAN THE ORIGINAL KONG FILM? READ ON — FIND OUT!

BY JOHN CHRISTOPHER

"This is it," comments oil company executive Wilson, his hands firmly clasped in anticipation. "This is 'The Big One'."

With those words, moviegoers will embark upon the most fantastic voyage of the year...Dino De Laurentiis's re-make of KING KONG.

Based on the 1933 movie, the modernized adventure follows an oil company expedition and their trials as they accidentally discover the "god" of an unexplored island. Like the original story, the source of inspiration is the legend of Beauty and the Beast. Skeptics who have expected a modern version of KING KONG could only end in fiasco, are wrong. This new Kong is every bit as good as the original (quite often better). Under the direction of John Guillermin (TOWERING INFERNO, TARZAN'S GREATEST ADVENTURE), the tragedy of Kong and his lady has never been more fully or beautifully expressed.

Charles Grodin plays the overzealous young executive, banking his entire future upon a wild theory; it is his belief a large reservoir of petroleum lies buried beneath the sea, beneath a strangely-behaving cloud bank. Not all are in agreement, especially Jack Prescott, a stowaway (portrayed by Jeff Bridges). A former medical student from Princeton, Jack has devoted his recent years researching old historical accounts about an island hidden within a mysterious fog. He believes it the source of a new



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Jessica Lange in the grip of Kong ...

species of life. A missing link, perhaps; a giant humanoid shape, but an ape ... an ape unlike any known before. Naturally, his theories are greeted with total disbelief.

Stormy seas rock the vessel, washing the deck with the full force of nature. In the calm which follows in the morning, Dwan is discovered, unconscious within a life-raft. Dwan, as played by newcomer Jessica Lange, is a would-be starlet, the sole survivor of a luxury yacht capsized in the storm. The shock of the incident is eventually eased by a slowly blossoming romance with Prescott.

By the time of their arrival at the island, Dwan is itching to set foot on solid ground. After a brief debate, Wilson reluctantly adds Dwan to the initial landing party.

On the island, the crew is greeted by a string of surprises. Jack, however, is unfazed by these proofs of

his theories. A great wall, almost fifty feet high and 500 feet wide, is discovered in the center of nature's splendor. Moreover, it is a wall vigilantly maintained by natives on the supposedly uninhabited island.

Scaling the wall, the party discovers the natives involved in a strange ritual, dancing and chanting around large pools of a bubbling, black ooze. The discovery of the landing party, however, brings the ceremony to an abrupt end. An effort at friendly communication ends in failure when the tribe leader takes a fancy to Dwan, and the crew is forced to retreat with their rifle-fire filling the air.

The night is deceptively quiet as Wilson considers the day's events with Jack and the Captain. In spite of advised caution, the executive is willing to do anything to attain what he still believes is a rich oil shelf under the island. Meanwhile, greater conflicts are set into motion.

Silently, a boatload of tribesmen steal onto the ship and kidnap Dwan.

On the island, Dwan has been drugged and is ceremoniously presented to the "god" of the island. Jack has discovered her absence and formed a rescue team, but they arrive too late.

By morning, the drug's effects have worn off. Dwan regains consciousness to an unrewarding sight; the hairy face of a forty-foot giant ape staring fully at her. The face of Kong!

"I can't stand heights," screams Dwan in futile protest as she lifted up in Kong's grasp. "When I was a child, my parents took me to the top of the Empire State Building, and I got sick!"

Dwan is confronted with Kong's face ... the open mouth, the irregular breathing, the fixed stare. Horrified by what she imagines as her captor's intentions, the girl goes

temporarily insane. Erupting into a tantrum, she beats upon the beast's nose and screams in defiance:

"Go ahead, eat me! What are you waiting for? And I hope you choke!"

For Kong, all this is bewildering. He sets her down, and Dwan makes an unsuccessful effort at escape. Falling into one of Kong's immense footprints, Dwan becomes covered with the ooze seeping up through the island. Once more, Kong lifts up the girl and carries her off, but this time his intentions are obviously more beneficent.

After holding Dwan beneath a waterfall and washing her off, Kong directs strong puffs of warm breath over the girl. One of the more enjoyable scenes in the picture, this drying sequence is almost too delicious for Dwan. The strange contrast of warm contentment amidst the nightmare leaves the girl torn between conflicting emotions.

Death demands a price, but eventually Jack manages to retrieve the girl while Wilson and crew work steadily into the night, setting up a trap which eventually captures the beast.

Returned to the security of Jack's



embrace, Dwan regains a sense of reality. All romantic intentions, however, are tainted by the outcries of the captive Kong.

"After all these years, I'm finally going to need a shrink," observes Dwan as she stares down onto the pitiful image of Kong.

Wilson tries to allay her guilt

feelings about the ape's capture, contending that the natives will gladly be rid of the terror on their island.

"No, you're wrong. We've taken away their god; we've taken the magic from their island." Jack eyes the oil tanker which confines Kong, and his disgust is obvious. "A year



Charles Crodin and his crew firing away at the rampaging Kong ...



Kong breaks loose in New York City ...

from now, they'll just be a bunch of burnt-out drunks.'

But to Wilson, Kong is his last hope. The ooze is discovered to be ten thousand years short of developing into petroleum, and the only way to make amends to his employers is to come up with some fantastic publicity gimmick. Kong!

Thus, in New York, Kong is featured in a humiliating display before a packed stadium, making his entrance within an over-sized mock-up of a gasoline tank. A stage re-enactment of the ritual wedding turns to chaos when a mass of

reporters rush to Dwan's side. Kong, misinterpreting their motives, goes berserk and breaks loose from his bonds. Death and destruction follows his wake, as Kong searches out the girl lost in the crowd.

Through the dark streets of a metropolis in flight, Jack tries to lead Dwan to safety. They cross the river, and stop before the world trade center. Exhausted, Dwan convinces Jack they should rest in a deserted tavern across the street. The respite is only temporary, however, as Kong overcomes basic

fears to retrieve his mate. The twin peaks of the World Trade Center recall visions of Terrain on Kong's island, and the beast retreats to its zenith, Dwan in hand.

Jack tries to capture the beast alive, but his plans are thwarted by an unreasoning military. In a final confrontation, Helicopters circle the beast. The final moment is at hand, and Kong knows it. We can see it, within the depth of his eyes. Eyes which could never have belonged to one who was merely ... animal.

Kong's love for Dwan is bound-

less, and he lowers her to the safety of the roof-tops. The girl protests.

"No, Kong. Pick me up." Tears are streaming down Dwan's face. "They'll kill you!"

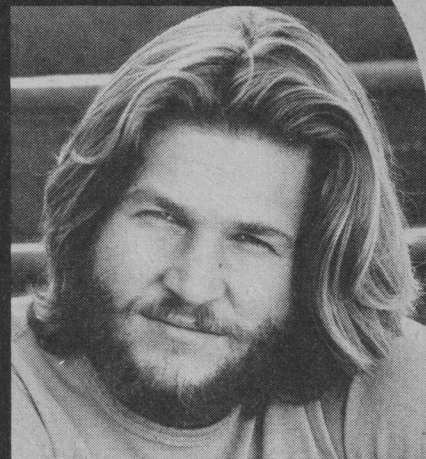
Jack and Dwan watch helplessly, and the mighty Kong initiates one final protest to his attackers. Weakened, he finally surrenders to fate and plummets to the cold death awaiting him 107 stories below.

For the frightened New Yorkers, the nightmare is ended. The masses throng about the fallen beast, wonder at the insane young lady who mourns over the creature. They push against the police who restrain them, squint into the

camera-flashes of the news photographers, and marvel at a celebrity born of tragedy.

For them, the nightmare is over. But what of others; what of the man and woman who hold responsibility for the death of a species? For Jack and Dwan, the nightmare of Kong will never know end.

Dino De Laurentiis's KING KONG is a moving experience, surprisingly effective. Written by Lorenzo Semple Jr., and backed by a superb John Barry score (Barry also graced the James Bond films), KING KONG is a delightful, large-scale adventure which should not be missed. ●



Jeff Bridges costars as Prescott, the anthropologist ...



Jessica Lange plays Dwan, King Kong's romantic interest ...

Hurry! Come see King Kong



FREE SHOW

Dear King Kong:

Yes, I want to appear with you, Jeff Bridges, Charles Grodin and Jessica Lange, IN PERSON, as well as 2,999 other Californians in a photographic salute to you on either August 11, 13, 18, 20, 1976 starting at 8:00 PM. I am enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope to be with you. See you then!

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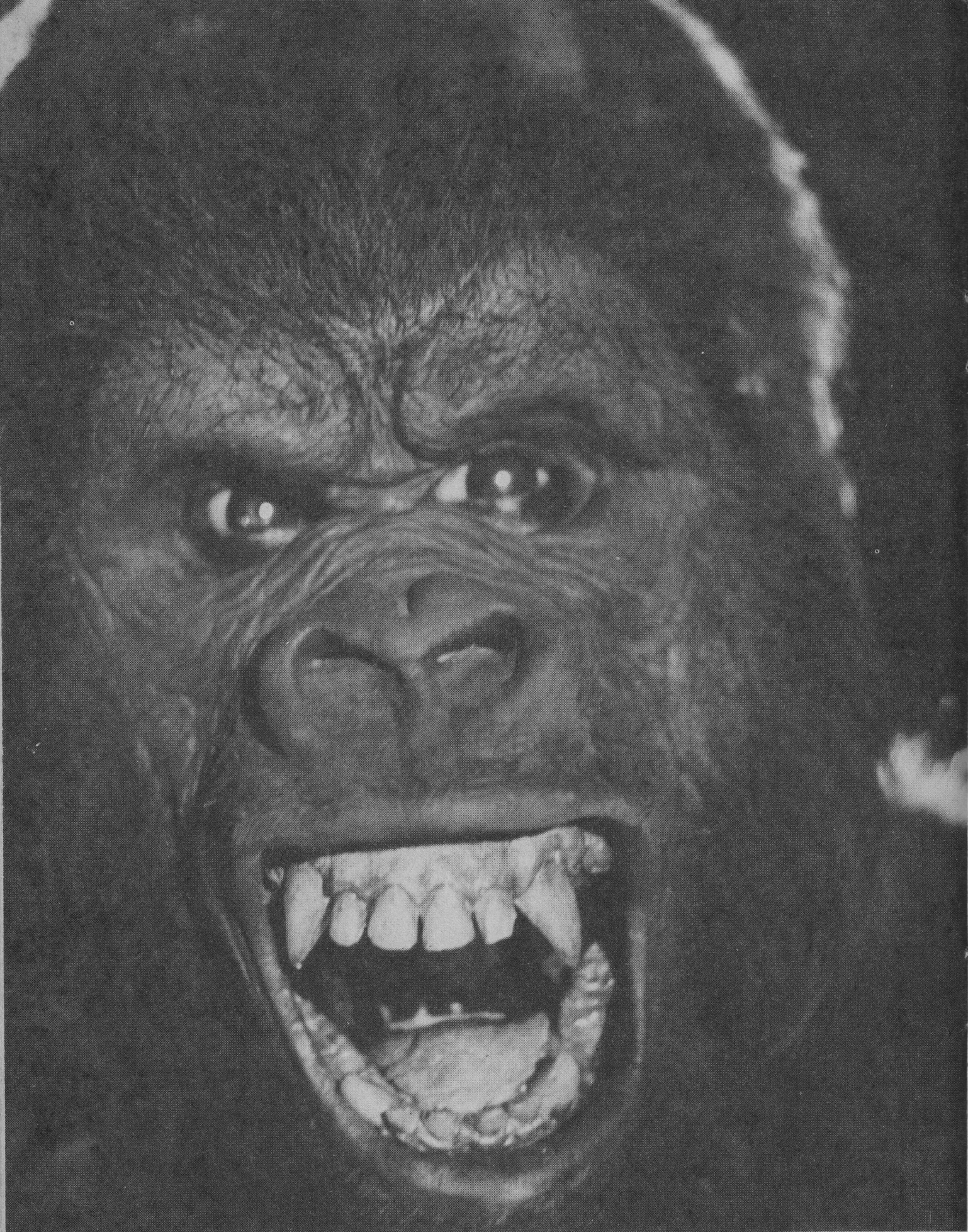
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Number of tickets desired _____ (Limit 4 per coupon)

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LAT



THE NEW KING KONG from Paramount Pictures and producer Dino De Laurentiis ...



KING KONG