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M / M - Eine Stadt sucht einen Mörder (new 35mm print)

Fritz Lang, Germany, 1931; 105m

Fritz Lang's first talkie, about a child murderer being tracked through Berlin by both the police and the criminal population (he's bad for business), is obviously a renowned classic. It's also a film with a surpassingly brilliant use of sound very early in the game: the soundtrack for *M* often works contrapunctually with the image, sometimes as a bridge between scenes, and is a key factor in the film's portrait of the city as gridlike, paranoid nightmare. This is the long version of Lang's masterpiece, with its devastating final image of the bereaved mothers of the dead children.

Sat Aug 10: 1; Sun Aug 11: 4

8 1/2 / Otto e mezzo

Federico Fellini, Italy, 1963; 135m

Having supplied *La Dolce vita* with a spiritual and (a)moral center, Mastroianni consolidated his indispensability to Fellini by playing the maestro's alter ego: a film director who, with a string of critical successes behind him, a wife, mistress, and host of other women who adore him, and a crew ready to start filming, has not a clue what to do for his next movie. The possibility of being found shallow has never seemed more beguiling. A moment for the ages: Guido

(MM) spotting his estranged wife (Anouk Aimée) window-shopping in the streets of a strange city, as "Blue Moon" plays on a car radio.

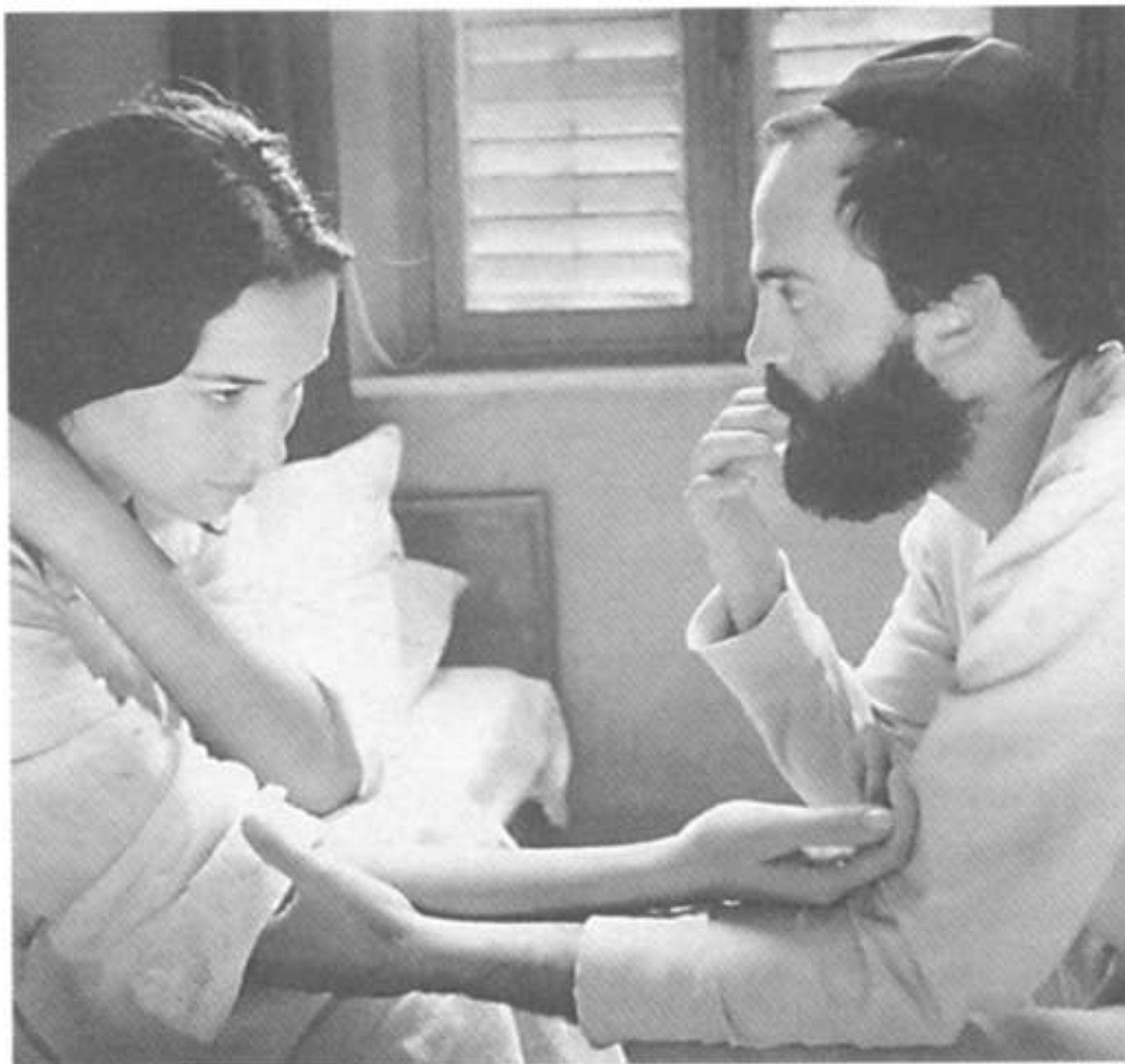
Sat Aug 10: 3:30; Sun Aug 11: 1

Kadosh

Amos Gitai, Israel, 1999; 117m

Set in the Mea Sherim quarter of Jerusalem, an enclave of the ultra-Orthodox, *Kadosh* explores a hermetic world almost never seen on the screen. Here, for ten years, the pious Rivka (Yael Abecassis) has devoted herself to her husband Meir (Yoram Hattab), but their marriage remains childless. Presumed barren, she is rejected by her community, which prizes children above all else. The story that follows relates the harrowing fate of Rivka, and also her beloved sister Malka (Meital Barda), in love with a young man who has fled the community to lead a secular life. A huge box-office hit in Europe, acclaimed at film festivals in Cannes, Toronto, New Delhi and Tokyo, *Kadosh* is both a powerful drama and an impassioned feminist polemic. As religious fundamentalism achieves new political significance in many countries around the world, the questions at the heart of Gitai's compelling drama resonate far beyond the borders of Israel.

Sat Aug 10: 6:30; Sun Aug 11: 8:30



Kadosh



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