

# **A L I E N**

THE DIRECTOR'S CUT

**SELECTED ORIGINAL 1979 PRESS CUTTINGS**



# SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

The paper of the Entertainment Industry

Number 207

September 15-22, 1979

UK/50p US/\$1.25

## London's Top Ten

- 1-1 **Alien** (20th Fox) Odeon Leicester Square £71,988
- 2-6 **The China Syndrome** (Col-EMI-War) Leicester Square Theatre, Odeon Chelsea, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Westbourne Grove £33,875
- 3-1 **Moonraker** (U.A.) Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Westbourne Grove, London Pavilion £28,941
- 4-3 **Manhattan** (U.A.) Cinecitta 2, Cinecitta 3, Classic 1 Oxford Street £26,053
- 5-2 **Dracula** (CIC) Empire, ABC 1 Bayswater, ABC 2 Edgware Road, ABC 1 Fulham Road £25,032
- 6-5 **Quadrophenia** (Brent Walker) Plaza 1, Classic 2 Oxford Street, ABC 1 Edgware Road, ABC 2 Fulham Road, ABC 2 Bayswater £22,747
- 7-4 **The Main Event** (Col-EMI-War) Warner 2, Classic 4 Oxford Street, Scene 3, ABC 3 Bayswater, ABC 4 Edgware Road, ABC 4 Fulham Road

## LONDON BOX OFFICE

### 'Alien' stuns West End

FOLLOWING its smash success in the States **Alien** has, as predicted, gone on to break box office records in its first full seven days in the UK. This British-made film set new gross and net house records at the Odeon Leicester Square — the net being £71,988, more than £1,000 up on the previous house record set during the second week of **Close Encounters Of The Third Kind** last year.

And what makes this net even more remarkable is the fact that **Alien** is playing only four performances a day, as against the five played by **Close Encounters**, and is, by nature of its 'X' certificate, more limited in its audience potential. The net, needless to say, is an all-time opening week's high for any cinema in the UK. **Alien**, distributed by 20th Fox, opens in Glasgow and Birmingham

**THIS WEEK'S total net take for the 81 cinemas listed is £363,641 (£316,101). This Year's High: £382,683. This Year's Low: £221,244. The Top Ten Pictures at 36 cinemas took £249,993 (£202,715), leaving £113,648 (£113,386) for the remaining 45 cinemas. 27 CINEMAS UP 54 CINEMAS DOWN 18 CHANGES U:6 A:19 AA:25 34**

### WEST END OPENING

**SEPTEMBER 20: Scum** (GTO), **September Christmas**, **Doogie: Baby**  
**SEPTEMBER 23: Saint Jack** (New World), **Screen On The**

...this Sunday, with the rest of the keys following on September 23 and September 30.

**The China Syndrome**, another "impact" film, although of a different nature, opened at three more End screens and did very well in business, bettering the previous week's net. At the Lyric Theatre returns £1,000.

We appeal to our readers to help us raise money for the... of ST

**DAILY Mirror**

Monday, June 11, 1979 8p

**TORIES SCOOP EURO POLL**  
—See Page 2

**Why is this girl filled with fear?**



**ALIEN**

**new movie SEE CENTRE PAGES**

**She's watching a terrifying**

**It's the space horror film that beats them all**

# OUT OF THIS WORLD!

**C**LOSE encounters of the terrifying kind are about to make film history. For a British-made science fiction horror epic called *Alien* is being tipped to become the biggest box-office smash of the year.

The film is expected to become an even bigger success than *Star Wars*, *Jaws* or *Close Encounters*.

Already *Alien* has been breaking all sorts of records in America. It has been claimed that after only 26 days the film had recouped its £15 million production costs.

Yet *Alien* doesn't boast any big star names in its cast and it wasn't made by any of the top Hollywood directors.

In fact, it is only the second feature film to be made by British director Ridley Scott, who directed the award-winning movie *The Duellists*.

## Audience Impact

So what is it that has made *Alien* such an enormous money-spinning hit?

The answer is a combination of breath-taking special effects and scenes which reach new heights in horror.

In the States the film's shock impact has had sensational results.

At some cinemas

## THE CREW

# Sit back ..and be shocked

By JOHN MILLAR

frightened members of the audience have run terrified from their seats.

Now next month—after a special showing on September 1 at the Edinburgh Film Festival—British audiences will get their turn to be scared by this new spine chiller.

The plot of *Alien* is really little more than a brilliant futuristic updating of the traditional horror movie.

Seven astronauts are heading for earth in the space tug *Nostromo* with a cargo of valuable fuel when they make a diversion to answer an SOS from a spaceship marooned on a mysterious planet.

Unknown to the crew, a

horrific space monster is incubating in that stranded spaceship just waiting for the chance of life.

## Explosion of Blood

And it is then that the horror really begins. The creature attaches itself to the face of one of the space crew. Then, like a grotesque parasite, it reproduces itself inside the unfortunate spaceman's body.

This leads up to one of the grisliest scenes in the film when, in an explosion of blood and gore, this hideous monster comes bursting out of the astronaut's body.

There then follow even more horrific scenes as the



John Hurt who has the gruelling role of the space man whose body is used to hatch the monster.

Time Out  
September 7-13 1979

