

BUREAU DE SURVEILLANCE DU CINÉMA
FICHE D'EXAMEN

langue ang. V. antérieur:
 s.f. _____ langue ()
 première instance (x) s.t. ()
 révision () cat. ()
 v. modifiée () date visé _____

TITRE (écran) DAMIEN OMEN II *

V.O.

format (35) n/b () c (✓) procédé

nationalité et année: USA 77

production: HARVEY BERNHARD PRODUCTION

réalisation: Don TAYLOR

interprétation: William HOLDEN, Lee GRANT, Robert FOXWORTH, Nicholas PRYOR

VER: 9600' (2935) 107'
 documentation
 MPPD: 110'
 VAR: 109'
 NYT: 110'

TOUS () 14 (X) 18 () REFUS ()
 DATE D'EXAMEN 14.06.78
 BELLEVUE
 215167-7

I D E N T I F I C A T I O N
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T. FRA: DAMIEN LA MALEDICTION II (BSCG) MPPD 7 06 78

B.C. RW 6.78	ALB ANSC 6.78	SAS RW 6.78	MAN APG 7.78	ONT A 6.78	N.B. R 8.18	N.S. P 8.78			
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VI: AG PS JJT GD ED FA
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 VS: AG PS JJT GD ED FA

PRÉSIDENT DU JURY
 J.J. Teller
 DATE 14.06.78
 CATÉGORIE 14 ans

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Genre: Epouvante
 Après Omen, Carrie et autres on récidive avec Damien, Omen II. Il s'agit du même enfant, 7 ans plus tard, dans un collège militaire huppé où il se débarasse avec aisance de sa tante, d'un condisciple qui se moque de lui, d'un prof, d'un savant, d'un technicien d'usine. L'oncle qui l'élève, découvre qu'il est le fils de Satan mais sa mère adoptive tue l'oncle et Damien la fait disparaître par le feu. Film d'épouvante techniquement bien fait dans de très beaux décors mais plus souvent qu'autrement les meurtres sont exécutés de façon drolatique. L'effet d'horreur est donc de beaucoup réduit. A l'instar des autres films du même genre, le jury convient qu'il s'agit d'un spectacle qui peut être vu par les 14 ans et plus sans danger de traumatisme.

J.J. Teller
 SIGNATURE

26.6.78

Screen: Damien Back in 'Omen II'



William Holden and Lee Grant in "Damien-Omen II"
As foolish as the first film, but rather more fun to watch

By VINCENT CANBY

WHEN we took our leave of him at the end of "The Omen," Damien, the cherubic-looking Antichrist, come to earth to claim his rights, was 6 years old and in attendance at the state funeral of his father and mother, the recently deceased United States Ambassador to the Court of St. James's and Mrs. Thorn. Holding the hand of the President throughout the ceremony, Damien did not fidget. Apparently fidgets are not something to which a child "born unto a jackal" is subject.

At the start of "Damien—Omen II," the inevitable sequel, we leap seven years into the future when Damien, now 13 and played by round-faced Jonathan Scott-Taylor, is living near Chicago with his uncle, Richard Thorn (William Holden), Richard's wife, Ann (Lee Grant), and his cousin Mark (Lucas Donat) in the sort of suburban splendor that only multimillions can buy in the Middle West: a 50-year-old, mock French chateau and more liveried servants than you're likely to find at Buckingham Palace.

To all outward appearances Damien is, if not the Antichrist, then at least an Antichrist. He rarely smiles, and when he does it's a sneer. He's rude to his ancient aunt. He smokes cigarettes if he can get them and, when crossed by a schoolmate, all he has to do is stare to send the other kid into convulsions. Yet nobody recognizes him for what he is, not even Damien himself.

It's left to a sergeant at the military school attended by Damien and Mark to pass the word on to Damien. The sergeant is one of the Devil's helpers who miraculously appear from time to time to help Damien (and the movie's plot) along.

"The time is coming," says the sergeant sternly, "for you to put away childish things and face up to who you are."

Those of us who endured "The Omen" know what the sergeant means: "You're too old to go around murdering mummies and daddies and nannies. Act your age."

One way and another Damien does, and "Damien—Omen II" is the opened record of this particular—what should I call it?—rite of passage. Before Damien is finished this time, there have been approximately a dozen new victims, a couple of whom have succumbed to what appear to be internal disorders while others have been sliced in half, stabbed, burned, impaled, gassed, pecked (by a nasty crow) and, in the film's most inspired moment of cinematic nonsense, drowned beneath

'Born Unto a Jackal'

DAMIEN—OMEN II, directed by Don Taylor; screenplay by Stanley Mann and Michael Hodges, from a story by Harvey Bernhard based on characters created by David Seltzer; produced by Mr. Bernhard; co-producer, Charles Orme; director of photography, Bill Butler; music, Jerry Goldsmith; editor, Robert Brown Jr.; distributed by 20th Century-Fox. Running time: 110 minutes. At the National Theater, Broadway at 43d Street, and other theaters. This film has been rated R.

Richard Thorn.....	William Holden
Ann Thorn.....	Lee Grant
Damien Thorn.....	Jonathan Scott-Taylor
Paul Butler.....	Robert Foxworth
Charles Warren.....	Nicholas Pryor
Bill Alherton.....	Low Ayres
Aunt Marion.....	Sylvia Sidney
Sergeant Naff.....	Lance Hendriksen
Joan Hart.....	Elizabeth Shepherd
Mark Thorn.....	Lucas Donat
Pesarian.....	Alan Arbus
Murray.....	Fritz Ford
Dr. Kama.....	Meshach Taylor
Teddy.....	John J. Newcombe
Butler.....	John Charles Burns
Colonel.....	Paul Cook
Jane.....	Diane Daniels
Teacher.....	Robert E. Ingham
Minister.....	William B. Foster

the clear ice of a Wisconsin lake. Perhaps my resistance has given out but I must say that "Damien—Omen II," though it's as foolish as the first film, is rather more fun to watch and sometimes very stylish-looking. Much of the movie was shot in and around Chicago, which, in winter, with its extraordinary architecture, must be one of the handsomest of American cities—so handsome, in fact, that the movie-makers haven't hesitated to let Chicago's railroad yards double for those in New York when the need arises.

"Damien" does have some trouble getting its seasons straight. Though the story covers approximately nine months, the leaves on the trees suggest a perpetual autumn with occasional bouts of winter.

The winter scenes, filmed in Wisconsin, are spectacularly beautiful, and work in a subliminal way to make us accept the not uncomic absurdities of the screenplay, written by Stanley Mann and Michael Hodges. Because Mr. Hodges began as the film's director, but was later replaced by Don Taylor ("The Island of Dr. Moreau," "Tom Sawyer"), I've no idea who is responsible for the movie's classy look.

A cast of good actors helps, of course. Mr. Holden and Miss Grant play it straight, with nice assistance from Mr. Scott-Taylor, Mr. Donat, Sylvia Sidney, Lew Ayres and several actors new to me. Robert Foxworth, Elizabeth Shepherd and Lance Hendriksen.

I'd hate to have anyone go off to see "Damien" with the idea that it's going to be some sort of transcendental experience. It's a joke, but as such jokes go, it's much funnier than "The Fury," and quite as shrewd in its Grand Guignol special effects.

B.S.C.Q.

AFFICHE SOUMISE LE

01.06.78

ACCEPTÉE

REFUSÉE

PAR

FA G D PS

N.Y.T
9.6.78