



COURTESY PHOTOS

MacLaine raises cu

Actress creates a moving picture show of her life

By **SUE MAYFIELD GEIGER**
Correspondent

“We shot ‘Terms of Endearment’ in Galveston — I just loved the place!” said Shirley MacLaine as we chatted on the phone last month.

The beach scene with Jack Nicholson was the best one in the movie, MacLaine said while reflecting on 1983, when she spent several months in the Houston/Galveston area making the film for which she won an Oscar.

MacLaine is performing May 1 at The Grand 1894 Opera House in the island’s down-

town, where she will combine a montage of memorable film moments with private revelations about her extraordinary life, career and spiritual journey.

MacLaine has appeared in more than 50 feature films, has been nominated for Academy Awards six times and won Best Actress in 1984 for “Terms of Endearment.”

She has won six Emmys, 10 Golden Globes and numerous other awards during her five-decade career.

She has published 12 best-selling books, with a new one coming out this month, as well as a new movie — “Bernie” — in post production.

An outspoken advocate for civil rights, women’s rights and spiritual understanding, MacLaine is also known for her many New Age beliefs.

Turning 77 this month, she says she is in the “third act” of her life and sees life more clearly now.

Q: What can we expect to see on stage?

A: I will be showing clips of my various movies and television shows, talking about my travels, past loves, political stuff, books I’ve written, singing and dancing. I have a remote control to stop the film and interject personal stories. So, it’s basically a “behind-the-scenes” look at my life.

Q: Will you take questions from the audience?

A: Absolutely!

Q: What film do you consider your best work?

A: I thought “Madame Sousatzka” (1988) was good; also “Terms of Endearment.”

Q: Where do you keep that Oscar?

A: It’s here in Santa Fe (N.M.) sitting with my Golden Globes and other awards.

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rtain on 'third act,' reflects on first two



is going to do. He's so talented, so funny, and does his scenes differently every time, which I love, because I hate the boredom of doing them the same way.

Q: Was it fun working with Jack Nicholson?

A: (Laughter) Oh yes! He is dangerously unpredictable; you never know what he

Q: The focus of all your books has been about your spiritual journey. What one aspect stands out above all the rest?

A: Peru was very important; not only because of Machu Picchu, but because of everything that happened

there. I saw so many crafts in the sky darting all over the place — looking for minerals, according to the older villagers.

Scientists with telescopes and recording equipment come from all over the world and study these phenomena, which I saw myself.

I live in New Mexico, which is the backyard of all these sightings, so I live with that vibration all the time.

There are so many crystals in the ground here that amplifies the consciousness, which puts me in touch with other realities.

My dad was a doctor of psychology and philosophy and was basically an intellectual and free thinker. So I was educated to be open minded.

Q: So, is Santa Fe the place

that speaks to you the most?

A: Yes, I follow my spiritual impulse.

Q: You've got a new book coming out this month called "I'm Over All That and Other Confessions." What are you over the most?

A: Things like the Red Carpet and being nice to boring people. Mainly what I'd been doing in the name of political and social correctness.

I was almost "over" watching the news, but (Libyan dictator Moammar) Gadhafi got me back on track.

Q: What are you not over?

A: Africa! Kenya and Tanzania. The animals, nature, the interplay in harmony of this kaleidoscopic place is a memory that I can bring alive whenever

I want to.

Q: Of your 12 books, do you have a favorite?

A: No, but this new one is the most down-to-earth and has shorter chapters. It's a quick absorption with the last two chapters getting into heavier stuff. I've learned finally to make it simpler than my previous books. But I think the times have caught up with my thinking because some of my beliefs thought to be wacky 15 or 20 years ago are now mainstream.

Q: Who influenced you the most?

A: Stephen Hawking had a great deal to do with my thinking. I met him years ago when I first started writing. Whenever I'm in England, I visit him at Cambridge and we talk. When he came out with "Into the Universe," he

made it quite clear that his mathematical brain cannot discount the possibility of alien intelligence when there are endless possibilities inside the hundreds of billions of galaxies we know are out there.

Q: Best advice you ever got?

A: The advice I gave myself when I finished walking the Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage in Spain: "All you ever really need is a good pair of shoes, a hat to protect you from the sun and fresh water."

Q: Best advice you would give someone going into your field.

A: Get a day job!

Q: Words you live by.

A: "Know thyself."

Q: What you do in your down time.

A: I think. I meditate.

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