

CRITIC'S TIP

MOVIES: A SATIRICAL LOOK AT RADICALS

Rainer Werner Fassbinder's anarchistic sense of humor and iconoclastic world view are embodied in "**The Third Generation**" — the 35-year-old director's most ambitious satire. Formerly, Fassbinder pricked the follies of the Fascists and the rich. These were safe targets. Now, he turns his political darts on the discreet charm of the radical chic. Fortified by excellent performances from Eddie Constantine, Hanna Schygulla and Volker Spengler, Fassbinder savagely formulates a conspiracy between the industrialists and terrorists. And makes it funny. At the Nickelodeon Cinema, Boston.

— *Michael Blowen*

CONCERTS: WHAT'S NEW?

Theodore Antoniou, the composer whose "Circle of Thanatos and Genesis" had its world premiere at the BSO last week, has an omnivorous curiosity about new music he didn't write, and for it he is always an eloquent advocate. Tonight at 8 in the concert hall of the Boston University School for the Arts (855 Commonwealth av.) his professional new-music ensemble **Alea III** (which a couple of weeks ago had a highly successful New York debut) plays a concert of music by Keleman, Vercoe, Castaldo, Kirchner (the string quartet that won the Pulitzer Prize) and Lutoslawski. And, believe it or not, it's free.

— *Richard Dyer*

CONCERTS: WAILIN' WITH WOODY

While waiting for the last remnants of the Super Bowl invasion to pull a Bonaparte's retreat before he settles down in New Orleans for his long location job, **Woody Herman and his Herd** will wail in the academic aerie of Mount Holyoke College's Chapin Auditorium in South Hadley Saturday at 8 p.m.

— *Ernie Santosuosso*

NIGHTLIFE: GET TO KNOW JOHN COSTER

John Coster is largely unknown to Boston audiences, which is a shame. A western Massachusetts resident, he is a songwriter of uncommon sensitivity and eloquence. His graceful style borders folk-rock, but just as easily spans lyrical pop and rock, dimensions. John Hammond Sr. (the discoverer of Bruce Springsteen and Bob Dylan, among others) has taken an interest in his work, and with the right breaks, Coster could become a national figure. He has occasionally appeared in Boston as a solo act, but he'll have a band with him when he appears at the Tam, 1648 Beacon st., Brookline, Saturday at 9:30 p.m.

— *Steve Morse*

EXHIBITS: WITH THE GRAIN

The sculpture of **Nicholas Edmonds** celebrates the grain and shape and curvature of unfinished wood. His pieces do not have pedestals, but seem to grow from the ground itself. There is a suggestion of ideal form in the way the wood approximates the rhythms of landscape, though the artist leaves no doubt in his approach to representation that he is dealing very often with specific forms. What matters, too, is the tangible poetry of solids and voids. In Edmonds' new exhibition at the Art Building Gallery of Bridgewater State College through Feb. 5, drawings permit us to observe the development of a sculptural idea, from concept to the three-dimensional object.

— *Robert Taylor*