

*Ethan* is a mystery. It's not only a lost film, it's a film that most people have never heard of, let alone seen. It carries two release dates on the imdb – 1964 and 1971. There is a nude scene in the film that would have been a real rarity in the United States in 1964 but would have fit right in in 1971 (unless the nude bits were inserted into the 1971 release).

Producer Ferde Grofe, Jr. (son of the wonderful composer Ferde Grofe) was producing films in the Philippines in both 1964 and 1971. The director, Michael Du Pont directed films in the Philippines in both 1965 and 1970. But it doesn't really matter. If it had a U.S. release no one seems to know about it.

Shot in Techniscope and color, *Ethan* concerns Father Ethan Harris who is doing missionary work in a small Philippine village that has two basic cultures – Muslim and Catholic-Christian. The cultures clash when Ethan has a moment of weakness with a local widow, Andai, who successfully tempts and seduces him. When Andai's father discovers what happened he threatens to kill the priest. He shows up to do just that, but Ethan's friend, the artist Carlos, tries to stop the enraged father and is himself killed, and then the father is shot down by the police. Ethan blames himself and God, questions his faith and abandons the priesthood, resorting to drink in which to drown his doubts and troubles. Having hit rock bottom, he is rescued by a kindly fisherman and his family, finds redemption, only to die while protecting Andai. A film about seducing priests, crisis of faith and the issues between Muslim and Christian was certainly not typical audience fare back then.

The film stars Robert Sampson (almost all the other actors are Filipino), who, at that time, was working a lot in television and had guest-starred in such shows as *Tales of Wells Fargo*, *The Virginian*, *Bonanza*, *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*, *Thriller*, and had played the father in the classic *Twilight Zone* episode, "Little Girl Lost." He would also appear *The Outer Limits*, *Combat*, *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea*, *That Girl*, *Star Trek*, *Mission: Impossible*, *Ironside* and others, and he was a series regular on *Bridget Loves Bernie*. He continued working all through the 1980s in just about every hit TV show of that era, and in 1985 he appeared in the cult classic *Re-Animator*. The Filipino actors were all fairly well known and appeared in many films that found their way into the U.S.

The one area in which *Ethan* soars is its score by composer Paul Glass. Glass, born in 1934, was the son of silent film actor Gaston Glass. He studied composition with Ingolf Dahl, Geoffredo Petrassi and Witold Lutoslawski. Glass composed his first film score in 1957. But his first mainstream film score for a major studio was in 1964 with the Paramount film *Lady In a Cage*, the same year as his score for *Ethan*. He had two distinct styles for his film scores – avant-garde (*Lady In a Cage*) and a more accessible harmonic style (*Ethan*, and subsequently, *Bunny Lake is Missing* in 1965). *Ethan* is very much in the *Bunny Lake is Missing* style – a beautiful score, with haunting themes that are developed with wonderful variety throughout its long playing time.

As a companion piece, we also include Paul Glass's score for the short film *George Grosz's Interregnum*. Made in 1960, *Interregnum* was narrated by the legendary Lotte Lenya. The film was nominated for

an Academy Award for Best Documentary Short. A portrait of Nazi brutality as told through the images of artist George Grosz, the film is powerful and memorable. Glass's score for *Interregnum* falls firmly into his avant-garde style and fits perfectly with the imagery of the film.

Both scores are presented complete and in stereo from Mr. Glass's personal tapes. We are thrilled to have two more Paul Glass scores on CD. *Lady In a Cage* and *Overlord* and *Hustle* are also available on Kritzerland.

Paul Glass had a completely unique musical voice in film music back then and hearing his work today, his musical voice remains completely unique. He is still actively composing serious music and lives in Switzerland.

— Bruce Kimmel