Yamamoto, Satso • Director, also • actor. • Born Japan, July 15, 1910; died August 11, 1983, Tokyo, Japan. Waseda University (theater). Former student activist and stage talent whose film directing career (his first success was La Symphonie pastorale 1938) was interrupted when he was drafted into WWII. In the post-war years Yamamoto came into his own as one of Japan’s leading political directors, with a series of engaging left-wing exercises, notably The Street Without Sun (1954), La Symphonie pastorale 1938 (d); The Street 1939 (d); End of Engagement 1940 (d); Tsukasa no geta 1942 (d); Hot Wind 1943 (d); War and Peace 1945 (d); The Street of Violence 1950 (d); Storm Clouds Over Mount Hakone 1951 (d); Vacuum Zone 1952 (d); The Street Without Sun 1954 (d); Avalanche 1956 (d); Typhoon 1956 (d); The Human Wall 1959 (d); Battle Without Arms 1960 (d); A Band of Assassins 1962 (d); Red Water 1963 (d); Typhoon 1964 (d); The Spy 1965 (d); Freezing Point 1966 (d); The Bride From Hades 1966 (d); The Family 1974 (d); Marihuana Eclipse 1975 (d); Sakkakura 1976 (d); The Barren Ground 1977 (d); August Without the Emperor 1978 (d); Ahi Nomugi Toge 1980 (d).

Yang, Edward • Director; also screenwriter. • Born Yang To-chung, Shangh hai, 1947. Educ. Florida State University (computer science); USC, Los Angeles (film). Edward Yang is often cited, along with Hou Hsiao-hsien, as one of the central figures of New Taiwan Cinema. Born in Shanghai, he moved with his family at the age of two to Taiwan. After studying engineering in Taiwan, he received an advanced degree in computer science in Florida, before entering USC’s film school in 1974. Yang left before graduating, but never gave up the idea of making films. He took a computer job in Seattle until 1980, when a friend from USC asked him to write a screenplay for The Winter of 1905. He went to Japan for the shoot, then returned to Taiwan in 1981, an opportunity for a budding filmmaker. Almost immediately, he directed "Duckweed" (1981), an episode from the groundbreaking TV series "11 Women." The following year, he was one of four young filmmakers to participate in In Our Time (1983), the film which inaugurated the new cinema. It introduced important new directors and represented what Yang considered the first attempt to recover the Taiwanese past, "to open up questions about our origins, our relationship to Mainland China." Yang’s first full-fledged feature film was That Day on the Beach (1983), a dark, black comedy—worldwide attention. As in his previous films, the focus is primarily on urban women and their ability to adapt better than men to a society in flux. The new Chinese tendency towards literary adaptation forms a reflexive subplot for Yang’s third feature, The Terrorizers (1986). A woman author is one of a number of characters around which Yang spins a fabric of intertwining narratives. The relationships among their stories develop slowly; some don’t connect until near the end. The film’s main concern is with the inter-connectedness of modern life and how even random actions reverberate throughout society.

Yates, Peter • Director. • Born Weshott, Surrey, England, July 24, 1929. Educ. RADA, London. Began staging plays in the British provinces from the age of 19 and worked as an assistant to J. Lee Thompson and Tony Richardson in the early 1960s. Yates then alternated between film and TV work and made his feature debut with Summer Holiday (1963).

Yates’s early work exhibits a talent for fast-paced action, reflected in such films as Bullitt (1968), which includes one of the most harrowing car chases ever filmed, and The Friends of Eddie Coyle (1973). In the 1980s he crafted a number of fine, character-driven studies such as The Dresser (1983), Lenin (1985) and Suspect (1987). • The Guns of Navarone 1961 (ad), The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone 1961 (ad), A Taste of Honey 1961 (ad), Summer Holiday 1963 (d), One Way Pendulums 1964 (d), The Kidnapping 1967 (d), Bullitt 1968 (d), John and Mary 1969 (d), Murphy’s War 1970 (d), The Hot Rock 1972 (d), The Friends of Eddie Coyle 1971 (d), Chicago 1975 (d), The 1979 (d), near 1988, AANIB, House on an acre of dirt 1996.