

## Roadshow PRESS SHEET



## --BIGGER THAN LIFE! Superman's father and the Superman, a native of the with a glare, freeze deserts with leading scientist of the doomed planet Krypton, reared in his breath, peer through any planet, Krypton. substance except lead and

SUPERMAN, The Movie

Smallville, U.S.A. and a resident of Metropolis, was born in Cleveland, Ohio, the brainchild of writer Jerry Siegel and cartoonist Joe Shuster. SUPERMAN, the movie, was conceived at a sidewalk cafe in Paris by the father-and-

son production team of Alexander and Ilya Salkind and their family friend, Pierre Spengler. Directed by Richard Donner, who was responsible for "The Omen," SUPERMAN has taken almost two years to

film at locations including New York City; Gallup, New Mexico; Alberta, Canada; and England's two major production centers, the Shepperton and Pinewood Studios. SUPER-MAN is released in the United States by Warner Bros., a Warner Communications Com-It will open on \_\_\_\_\_ at the Theatre. The project began with the

development of the story and screenplay by Academy Award

winner Mario Puzo, author of "The Godfather." Then, David and Leslie Newman and Robert Benton did additional work on the script. When Richard Donner became involved he brought in Tom Mankiewicz as creative consultant. The cast and creative contingent which contributed to SUPERMAN boasts twelve Academy Awards and nearly

one hundred nominations. Included are one three-time recipient, composer conductor John Williams; and two holders of the "Best Actor" Award, Marlon Brando and Gene Hack-A dual winner (for "On The Waterfront" and "The Godfather") and five-time nomi-

nee, Brando is almost as much a legend - in his own way - as Superman. He plays Jor-El,

"It's a crucial role," ex-plained Donner, "which sets the tone and style of the film." Gene Hackman, who won his Oscar as Popeye, the com-

pulsive narc in "The French Connection," is seen as Lex Luthor, the evil genius who pits his cunning against Superman's strength. For Gene Hackman, who believes that variety is the spice of an acting career, SUPER-

MAN was a "romp." "I don't know why they thought of me; I'm not sure / would have thought of me," remarks the chameleon-like Oscar winner. "But Lex Luthor

was the best time I've had on a

movie set in years. Someone

once said that the villains have all the fun, and Luthor is the ultimate villain. "He's a real estate wheelerdealer with a predeliction for waterfront property . . . like Australia! From his luxurious lair in the bowels of the earth beneath Metropolis, he concocts the most bizarre, yet

weirdly logical super-crime in history." PICKING SUPERMAN . . . Casting the crucial role of Superman presented the film's creators with a subtle and deep challenge. First, as Ilya Salkind pointed out, the actor chosen would have to create two dis-

tinctively different characteri-

reporter for the Metropolis

Daily Planet, he is meek, mild-

"Disguized as Clark Kent, a

mannered and totally inept in moments of danger. His writing may some day win a Pulitzer. But alone with Lois Lane, whom he secretly loves, he is awkward and speechless. Which makes him just the opposite of Superman, who can fly, vault skyscrapers, outmuscle locomotives, start fires

Cast Jor-El ..... MARLON BRANDO 

against crime." The dual personality, adds Salkind, is what has made Superman such a great legend. "Almost all of us see something of Clark Kent in ourselves and something of

shrug off grenades, all of which

he does in a never-ending battle

what we would like to be in Superman." he points out. After months of speculation and rumor, the moviemakers tapped Christopher Reeve, who was brought to them by casting director, Lynn Stalmaster. Reeve's description as an "unknown" isn't quite true to the facts. At the age of twenty-four, Reeve had

worked more than ten years as

a professional actor, including

a stint on Broadway and on

tour opposite Katharine Hep-

burn in the play, "A Matter of

Gravity."

Capturing that conflicting persona on screen, adds director Richard Donner, meant threading a thin line between illusion and reality. 'We knew we had to avoid the trap which so many movies, sired by comic strips, have fallen into - parody or outright 'camp.' That approach would have achieved what scores of villains, including the unspeakably evil Lex Luthor himself, have failed to do destroy Superman. "Of course, the movie is bigger than life," he continues,

characters themselves. SUPER-MAN is a comedy, a love story, an adventure and its own thing. "But it is not a send-up." Reeve developed not only his biceps, but his interpretation of the dual role. The caped hero, standing hands-on-

"but amidst the most in-

credible adventures, the char-

acters have reality. Even more

important, it is a reality to the

than that," says the young actor. "In a sense, he is a stranger in a strange land, a solitary man with extra-

hips as bullets glanced off his

chest, was only one aspect of

"But there is more to him

Superman.

terrestial powers, trying hard to fit into his adopted planet. "He has warmth and a fine sense of humor, even about his own super-human strength."

DREAMS COME TRUE ...

The search for Superman/

Clark Kent was matched in its

intensity by the hunt for Lois Lane. She had to be bright, spunky, pretty, and capable of projecting a fond indulgence with the fumbling Clark and a zesty romance with his steely alter-ego. The nod finally went to

Margot Kidder, who admits

that she spent the first sixteen

years of her life "fantasizing," and the next thirteen realizing her fantasies. "There wasn't much to do but daydream when I was growing up, so I imagined myself a princess or an heiress

or a movie star." It took SUPERMAN to make her childhood dreams come true. She's not only a movie star, she's contemporary fantasy's favorite heroine. A distinguished inter-

national cast completes the roster of citizens from Krypton, Smallville and Metropolis. Susannah York, British Academy Award winner, American "Oscar" nominee and "Best Actress" at the

Man of Steel's real mother, Lara on Krypton. Glenn Ford and Phyllis Thaxter are the Kents of Smallville, who - in Ford's words -"try to give their amazing foster-son a normal American upbringing." Jackie Cooper, celebrating a

fifty-year screen career which

Cannes Film Festival is the

Credits

the Metorpolis Daily Planet. Valerie Perrine, dressed to the nines, is Lex Luthor's fetching playmate. "She's not really evil, just sort of dumb,"

began when he was a three-

year-old scene stealer, is Perry

White, no-nonsense editor of

says Valerie. "She can't resist Lex or his weird schemes." Ned Beatty, nominated for an Academy Award for his per-

formance as the coldly logical tycoon in "Network," is Otis, dimwitted aide-de-crime to Lex Maria Schell, winner of seven German "Oscars" and

the flawless beauty of "The Brothers Karamazov," is Vond-Ah, a Kryptonian scientist as brilliant as she is devious.

Trevor Howard and Harry Andrews, two of England's most enduring stars, are elders of the planet Krypton. Terence Stamp, "Oscar"

nominee for his disturbing portrait of "The Collector," Superman's cunning adversary. The behind-the-scenes credits have the same professional lustre.

after winning an Academy Award for "Star Wars," and industry-wide acclaim for "A Clockwork Orange" and "Lucky Lady." Composer-conductor John Williams is a three-time Academy Award winner for "Fiddler on the Roof," "Jaws"

Production designer John

Barry came to SUPERMAN

and "Star Wars." Oddly enough, when his "Star Wars" score won last year's Oscar, the man he had to beat out was...himself. (for "Close Encounters of the Third Kind.") Still another Oscar winner is Geoffrey Unsworth, director of cinematography, whose award was for the decadent images in "Cabaret."

Executive Producer, Ilya Salkind; Producer, Pierre Spengler: Director, Richard Donner; Story, Mario Puzo; Screenplay,

## First Elder ..... TREVOR HOWARD

| Lois Lane  |   | . MARGOT   | KIDDER    |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| Non  |   |            |           |
| Eve Teschmacher  |   | VALERIE P  | ERRINE    |
| Vond-Ah  |   | MARIA      | SCHELL    |
| General Zod  |   | TERENCE    | STAMP     |
| Martha Kent  |   | PHYLLIS TH | HAXTER    |
| Lara   |   | SUSANNA    | H YORK    |
| Young Clark Kent   |   | JE         | FF FAST   |
| Jimmy Olsen  |   | MARC MC    | CLURE     |
| Ursa   |   | SARAH DO   | OLIGI AS  |
| Second Elder   |   | HARRY AN   | UDREWS    |
| occome Ender   |   | . HAMINI A | VDIVE VIS |
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## Mario Puzo, David Newman, Leslie Newman and Robert Benton; Creative Consultant, Tom Mankiewicz; Associate Producer, Charles F. Greenlaw; Music by John Williams;

Production Designer, John Barry; Director of Photography, Geoffrey Unsworth, B.S.C.; Editor, Stuart Baird; Costume Designer, Yvonne Blake; Creative Supervisor of Make-up and Special Visuals, Stuart Freeborn; Creative Supervisor and Director of Special Effects, Colin Chilvers; Creative Supervisor of Optical Visual Effects, Roy Field; Creative Supervisor of Matter and Compositor Les Bouries Model Supervisor of Mattes and Composites, Les Bowie; Model Effects - Directed and Created by Derek Meddings: Superman Created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Schuster. An Alexander and Ilya Salkind Production

LIVE-IN PLAYMATE - Valerie

Perrine plays Eve, assistant and

lover to master criminal Lex Luthor

in "Superman," the movie, a Warner

Theatre,

Bros. release, opening on \_\_\_

at the \_



executive producer and Pierre Spengler producer. Mat W-1

David and Leslie Newman and

Robert Benton, Ilya Salkind is

SUSANNAH YORK is featured as

Lara in "SUPERMAN," the movie,

a Warner Bros. release, opening on

Marlon Brando, Gene Hackman and

Christopher Reeve starred. It is an

Alexander Salkind Presentation of a

Richard Donner Film, directed by

Donner from a story by Mario

Puzo. The screenplay is by Puzo,

David and Leslie Newman and

Robert Benton, Ilya Salkind is

executive producer and Pierre

Spengler producer.

\_\_ at the

Theatre, with

Mat J-1

'When I was a kid, living in mining towns in northwestern Quebec, I had a tremendous fantasy life," recalls Margot Kidder. "I would imagine I was

a princess or an heiress or a

At least one of Margot's dreams have been realized. She tana ranch. "I was hopeless. I don't like big spaces and I can't is a movie star. And now, after a search reminiscent of the stand cows. The marriage was simply never meant to be, although it gave new meaning to my life, in the form of my daughter, Maggie." great quest for Scarlett O'Hara, she is seen as Lois Lane in "Superman," the movie, a As Lois, she is bright, spunky, pretty and a top-flight reporter for that great daily newspaper, the Metropolis Daily Planet. She feels the kind of warm compassion for fellow reporter Clark Kent that one

would have for a clumsy, well-meant puppy. And she's in love with his other self, the Man of Steel. YOU'LL BELIEVE A MAN





cluding 'Superman,' and prob-ably would have done more, except that every time I fell in love, I gave up my career." Brando, Gene Hackman and Christopher Reeve. Also star-ring are Margot Kidder, Ned Beatty, Jackie Cooper, Glenn She even took a stab at being a housewife on a Mon-

Ford, Trevor Howard, Valerie

Perrine, Maria Schell, Terence

Stamp, Phyllis Thaxter and Susannah York. It opens on at the Theatre.

sentation of a Richard Donner film, "Superman" was directed

by Richard Donner from a

screenplay was by Puzo, David and Leslie Newman, and

kiewicz was creative consul-tant. Ilya Salkind was execu-

Puzo.

Tom Man-

story by Mario

Robert Benton

producer

Spengler was producer.

When romance hasn't reared its distracting head, Margot has been intrigued by the creative side of film making. At one point, she took a year out to work with "auteur" director Robert Altman, helping him edit "Brewster McCloud." More recently, she joined the Women's Directing Workshop of the American Film Institute,

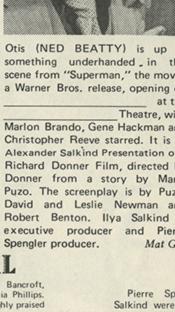
in such illustrious company as

is by Puzo, David and Leslie Newman and Robert Benton, Ilya Salkind is executive producer and Pierre Spengler producer. Mat B-1











SUPERMAN CLOSEUP - Chris-

topher Reeve plays the title role

as well as the role of Clark Kent,

the mild-mannered Daily Planet

reporter, in "Superman," the movie,

a Warner Bros, release, opening on

and Pierre Spengler producer.

\_ at the .



Donner Film, "Superman" was directed by Donner from a story by Mario Puzo. The screenplay is by Puzo, David and Leslie Newman and Robert Benton. Ilya Salkind is executive producer and Pierre Spengler producer. Mat E-1 PRODUCER OF "SUPERMAN Born in Paris in 1947, the

BRIGHT, AMBITIOUS AND LOIS LANE - Margot Kidder portrays

the young Daily Planet reporter

who falls in love with Superman in

the new movie, which is a Warner

Bros. release, starring Marlon

Brando, Gene Hackman and

Christopher Reeve, It opens on

Salkind Presentation of a Richard

\_ at the \_

\_\_ Theatre. An Alexander

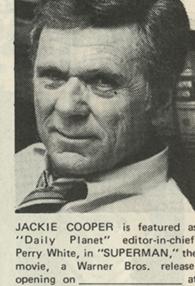
guages, and finds himself at

ease in most of the world's

capitals, he calls Paris his

complement each other was home. Entering the film industry as a production runner and office boy, he rose through the Spengler, the producer, is soft-spoken and contemplative while executive producer ranks while working on such Salkind is buoyant and permovies as "The Madwoman of Chaillot," "The Hot Line," suasive. Salkind handles the "artistic side" of movie-'Le Mans" and "The Battle of making, Spengler is responsible Neretva." He teamed for the for administrative and business first time with Ilya Salkind on "The Light At The Edge of the World," produced by Ilya's 'We sometimes refer to ourselves as a two-headed hydra, father, veteran movie maker

Nothing you have ever seen or heard could ever prepare you for this reality. This is a brilliant cast in an unforgettable story. The awesome technology of modern film brings



Film, directed by Donner from a story by Mario Puzo. The screenplay is by Puzo, David and Leslie Newman and Robert Benton Ilya Salkind is executive produce and Pierre Spengler producer.

with Marlon Brando, Gene

Hackman and Christopher Reeve

starred. It is an Alexander Salking

Presentation of a Richard Donne

Theatre



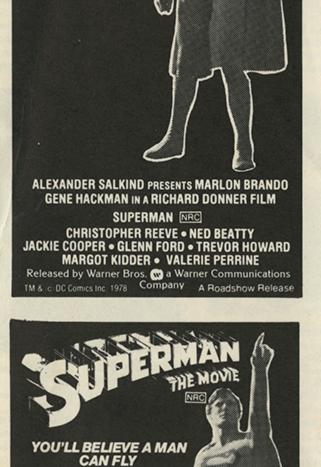
"Superman" stars Marlon son of a composer, Spengler's ancestry is largely Russian with Brando, Gene Hackman and Christopher Reeve. Also starring are Margot Kidder, Ned a "dash of Dutch." Although Beatty, Jackie Cooper, Glenn Ford, Trevor Howard, Valerie he is fluent in several lan-

Perrine, Maria Schell, Terence Stamp, Phyllis Thaxter and

Susannah York. It opens on

\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_Theatre. An Alexander Salkind presentation of a Richard Donne film, "Superman" was directed by Richard Donner from a story by Mario Puzo. screenplay was by Puzo, David and Leslie Newman, and Robert Benton. Tom Man kiewicz was creative consultant. Ilya Salkind was execuproducer and





ALEXANDER SALKIND PRESENTS MARLON BRANDO • GENE HACKMAN IN A RICHARD DONNER FILM

> ACCESSORIES DAYBILLS - ONE SHEETERS 3 SHEETERS - 8 X 10 STILLS 11 X 14 PHOTOS - SLIDES BLOCKS - TRAILERS

GLENN FORD • TREVOR HOWARD A Roadshow Release DISTRIBUTED BY WARNER BROS W A WARNER COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY

INFORMATION

RATED 'NRC' 142 MINUTES 3896 METRES

TV COMMERCIALS



BRÃÑDO

COOPER

SCHELL

BEÄTTY

PERRINE

grade-school pals would some-day make "Superman," the

movie, could not be foreseen.

decisions.

explains Spengler.

That they would brilliantly

\_ you someone to believe in.\_

HACKMAN

SUPERMAN NRC FÖÄD HOWARD KIDDER THAXTER YORK

DONNER



STORY BY MARIO PUZO • SCREENPLAY BY MARIO PUZO, DAVID NEWMAN, LESLIE NEWMAN AND ROBERT BENTON CREATIVE CONSULTANT TOM MANKIEWICZ • DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY GEOFFREY UNSWORTH B.S.C. PRODUCTION DESIGNER JOHN BARRY • MUSIC BY JOHN WILLIAMS • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ILYA SALKIND

AN ALEXANDER AND ILYA SALKIND PRODUCTION

ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK AVAILABLE ON WARNER BROS. RECORDS AND TAPES A Roadshow Release

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