

BARTLEBY

TO-DAYS CINEMA - 20th July 1971

San Sebastian round-up

By Sue Clarke

FOR THOSE who think Hollywood hoopla is dead, a trip to the San Sebastian Film Festival quickly reveals its spirit alive and well and living in Spain.

The Palacio del Festival is the Victoria Eugenie Theatre, a 19th century opera house, which resembles a cross between an old fashioned music hall and the Royal Albert!

Here at least the art of showmanship survives. This is a festival for distributors and exhibitors rather than producers. Basque pipers herald your arrival as you sweep up the red carpeted

The Gold Award at the San Sebastian Film Festival this year went to Eric Rohmer's beautifully photographed "Claire's Knee." Three films shared the Silver Award—Russia's "Uncle Vanya," USA's "Summer of '42" and the Czech "Jumping Over Puddles." Britain's "Bartleby" received a "special mention" from the jury.

The best actor award went to Vittorio Gassman and best actress to Graciela Borges.

movie and "porno" market displayed in the film world's annual casbah at Cannes just do not exist at San Sebastian. A further

France, "Juste Avant La Nuit" explores morality and guilt in the French middle class. Chabrol observes the situation with customary cool deliberation and subtle understatement, showing that where murder was once an objective black and white case, it has now become a subjective grey.

Britain's two entries stood up well in such competition. Anthony Friedmann's "Bartleby" with Paul Scofield and John McEnery received a special mention from the jury.

"Unman, Wittering And Zigo" starring David Hemmings and directed by John Mackenzie, proved for me that Giles Cooper's

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Ammunition

CO-PRODUCER of 'Bartleby', Anthony Friedman of Pantheon Productions is delighted that the film received an award at the San Sebastian festival—the Special Mention of the Jury. It was the only British film honoured.

Anthony comments: 'At each of three international film festivals a British film has received an award of some kind: 'The Go-Between' at Cannes, 'Desperate Characters' at Berlin and 'Bartleby' at San Sebastian. I think it is a nice footnote to the current attack on NFFC that they financed 'Bartleby'. It is a piece of light ammunition against the detractors of the film and the critics of the NFFC.'

Lion International had arranged a Spanish distribution deal before the festival.



AT THE 19th San Sebastian Film Festival, actress Britt Ekland hands director Anthony Friedmann his award for "Bartleby." The film, which stars Paul Scofield and John McEnery, won the Special Mention of the Jury at the festival. It was the only British film to win an award.

Britain's only award—and a special mention

Based on the Herman Melville story, "Bartleby" was totally financed by the NFFC, and is released by British Lion.

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TO-DAYS CINEMA - 29th June

Two for San Sebastian

Britain has two entries for the San Sebastian Film Festival—"Unman, Wittering And Zigo" and "Bartleby." Gareth Wigan's "Unman, Wittering And Zigo," directed by John Mackenzie and, starring David Hemmings, is a

Paramount release. "Bartleby," co-produced (with Rodney Carr-Smith) and directed by Anthony Friedmann, stars Paul Scofield and John McEnery. British Lion release.

