Stone sees self via Showtime

These days, the spotlight has been on Oliver Stone for his Oscar-nominated, and very controversial, JFK.

Stone, however, is in the Far East promoting it and writing.

Good time for him to escape just as the spotlight is turned on him, yet again, in a Showtime documentary.

"I had my raincoat over my head for half of it," he says, calling from the limo as he sped to the airport last week.

Stone found it "difficult" to allow his two old film school pals, producers Joel Sucher and Steven Fischler, into his life for Oliver Stone: Inside Out (Sunday, 10 p.m. EST/PST).

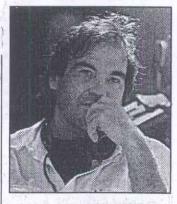
Seeing himself at work on JFK, watching his mother talk about him, hearing comments from Michael Douglas, Kevin Costner, Charlie Sheen and Martin Scorsese, among others, was a learning experience.

"It did me some good. I used (Inside Out) to grow. I had done seven films in seven years — this last one (JFK) has been a bit of a monster. It's a good place to stop, re-evaluate."

It's the first documentary, he says, that's been done about him. There are scenes from the '60s, shots when Stone didn't know he was filmed. Just like Truth or Dare?

"Yes," he laughs, "it's my Madonna movie."

- Ann Trebbe



OLIVER STONE: The subject of a Showtime documentary