

# Lynch's twin trials

## Film, party are Cannes fiascoes

CANNES — The Cannes Film Festival winds up tonight with the screening of *Far and Away* — and stars Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman in the audience. The celeb duo — who flew in by private jet Saturday — have been mobbed by the star-starved press here.

Lots of buzz, too, from David Lynch's screening of *Twin Peaks: Firewalk With Me* — and the lavish, but disastrous party on the beach afterward.

Fireworks exploded over the Bay of Cannes and live bands played through the night while partygoers tried to put the harrowing screening of the film — an unsettling mix of violence, drugs, and sexual perversity with an overdose of Lynch's trademark surrealism — behind them.

But that was hard to do.

A human traffic jam and overzealous guards (hired by the film's French producers CIBY 2000) at the door roughed up the black-tie guests on their way in to see the likes of David Bowie, a no-show.

Among those who walked out after getting in: Al Pacino, Dolph Lundgren and Ron Lightstone, head of Spelling Productions, the film's overseas distributor. "The party (stinks)," Lightstone yelled, shoving his way out. "Lemme out! You don't wanna go in."



By Gerard Julien, AFP

**MARY WALK WITH ME:** Filmmaker David Lynch with pregnant Mary Sweeney in Cannes before the screening of 'Twin Peaks.'

Lynch stayed late with *Firewalk's* editor, pregnant Mary Sweeney, due to give birth in Paris to the couple's baby boy in 10 days.

Also at the fest:

► **Oliver Stone** announced a two-picture deal with producer Arnon Milchan and Warner Bros. He'll direct *Heaven and Earth*, about a Vietnam woman's journey from the mid-'50s to the '80s. The other is a film Stone has produced called *South Central*, about a black man's struggle to keep his child out of L.A.'s drug scene.

► **Blake Edwards** introduced his new Inspector Clouseau, famed Italian actor **Robert Benigni**.

*Son of Pink Panther* begins filming in June; Benigni's character will be the illegitimate son of Clouseau. Said Benigni, chosen after Gérard Depardieu turned down the role:

"Being directed by Blake Edwards is like a carpenter being directed by St. Joseph, or like Arnold Schwarzenegger being directed by King Kong."

— Harlan Jacobson and David Nicholson