

Movie Memories

"Whoah, What a Gorilla"

Whoah, What a Gorilla was a very loose prequel to *The Manchurian Candidate* (1962), not in plot or copyright but in sheer date order. *Whoah, What a Gorilla* told of an ancient primitive society, whose Kings are elected by size irrespective of apeyness

I played 'nude woman'. It was a good part. It was speaking, which is not my strong suit. And I did my own stunts, climaxing in a grand leap off a burning 18 foot malfunctioning puppet

Like most of my films, *Whoah, What a Gorilla* was an allegory of race relations. Who could forget Judge Mohoney's immortal line 'Twas Beauty Killed the Beast, and Not Police Brutality. Not guilty, City of New York'.

We used the same jungle set and leftover donuts on my film about a cloning machine running amuck in the jungle: *Me Tarzan, You Also Tarzan*.

The script called for a cast of natives, as well as the author's wife to reconsider. As far as the natives went, unfortunately the chinese migrants so often used as indigenous africans were all booked up in a musketeers flick. Instead, our natives were played by goats, and when we ran out of them, children.