H3290 HEAVEN AND EARTH (USA, 1993)
(Other titles: Entre ciel et terre; El cielo y la tierra; Tra cielo e terra)

Credits: director/writer, Oliver Stone; story, Le Ly Hayslip.
Cast: Tommy Lee Jones, Hiep Thi Le, Joan Chen, Haing S. Ngor.
Summary: Biographical melodrama set in Vietnam and southern California spanning three decades. The true story of Phung Thi Le Ly Hayslip (Le) who emigrated to the United States from Ky La, a rice-farming village in Central Vietnam near Da Nang. Beginning with the French destruction of her village in the early 1950’s, Le Ly and her family suffer all the atrocities of war, until she meets an American soldier (Jones) who takes her home to California. Finally, after overcoming culture shock and a troubled marriage, Le Ly, on her own, achieves peace and security for herself and her children.

Avins, Mimi. “To put novel on screen, casting was crucial -- and complicated” Miami herald (Oct 4, 1993), p. 1F.
Balzar, John. “Vietnam and culture; Lessons and legacies / 25 years after Vietnam; Coming home is never easy” Los Angeles times (Apr 16, 2000), Calendar, p. 4.

__________. “Season’s screenings: Stone’s third Vietnam film is both gentle and powerful” Miami herald (Dec 25, 1993), p. 1F.

Covert, Colin. “‘Heaven and earth’ sprawls where it should have epic sweep” Star tribune (Minneapolis) (Dec 24, 1993), p. 2E.


[Reprinted in Film review annual 1994]

Devine, Jeremy M. Vietnam at 24 frames a second [GB] (p. 361-5)


[Reprinted in Film review annual 1994]


Farrell, Alan. “Heaven and earth” in Viet Nam war films II (edited by Jean-Jacques Malo and Tony Williams) [GB]


Fremd, Kelly Tsai. “‘Heaven’ is divine” Chicago tribune (Jan 14, 1994), Friday, p. P.

Frumkes, Roy. “Twenty minutes with Oliver Stone” Film journal (Jul 1994), p. ?


Fremd, Kelly Tsai. “‘Heaven’ is divine” Chicago tribune (Jan 14, 1994), Friday, p. P.

Frumkes, Roy. “Twenty minutes with Oliver Stone” Film journal (Jul 1994), p. ?


[Heaven and earth] New statesman and society 7 (Jan 21, 1994), p. 34.


Heckman, Don. “Kitaro brings heavenly touch to ‘Earth’: Music: The New Age composer worked a year and a half on the film, trying to capture the Asian feeling Oliver Stone was looking for” Los Angeles times (Jan 3, 1994), Calendar, p. 2.


Kang, Hyeing-min. From self to other in Oliver Stone’s Vietnam trilogy : Platoon, Born on the Fourth of July, and Heaven and earth Thesis (M.A.)—University of North Dakota, 1999. (vii, 92 leaves)


Kendall, Lukas (see under Kelly, Peter)


__________. “How arrogant for U.S. to place self at center of Vietnam’s history” Star tribune (Minneapolis) (Jan 14, 1994), p. 16A.

__________. “In reality, Vietnam is not free from guilt” Chicago tribune (Jan 12, 1994), Perspective, p. 15.


Le, Thuan. “Scenes from another lifetime: A role in Oliver Stone’s movie ‘Heaven and earth’ allows a journalist, whose family fled Vietnam in 1975, to relive the terror of war while discovering its contradictory legacy” Los Angeles times (Jan 2, 1994), Calendar, p. 4.


Matthews, Jack. “Crossed paths: She was a Vietnamese peasant ... he was an American soldier ... now he’s telling her story in a new movie” Newsday (Dec 19, 1993), Fanfare, p. 13.

__________. “Oliver Stone’s private war: The director goes back to Southeast Asia, this time to look at the Vietnamese point of view” Newsday (Jan 17, 1993), Fanfare, p. 8.

__________. “On location: The Vietnam war’s other side” Los Angeles times (Jan 17, 1993), Calendar, p. 6.

__________. “One among thousands: First-time actress Hiep Thi Le, who beat out 16,000 hopefuls for the lead in ‘Heaven and earth,’ draws lessons from her fellow refugees” Los Angeles times (Jan 17, 1993), Calendar, p. 40.

Stein, Ruthe. “On cloud nine in ‘Heaven and earth’: One minute Hiep Thi Le was in class at UC Davis, the next she’s a star” San Francisco chronicle (Dec 19, 1993), Sunday datebook, p. 20.


Stone, Oliver. “Vietnam: The reverse angle” in The making of Oliver Stone’s ‘Heaven and earth’ [see under Singer, Michael]


Tan, Lynette. Heaven and earth: Oliver Stone’s Vietnamese frontier [unpublished paper read at the British Association for American Studies conference, April 12, 1996] (22 p.)

Thomas, Jack. “Heaven and no mirth” Boston globe (Dec 10, 1993), Living, p. 54.


Turan, Kenneth. “Movie review: Stone’s ‘Earth’: Larger than life” Los Angeles times (Dec 25, 1993), Calendar, p. 1. [Reprinted in Film review annual 1994]

Vanderknyff, Rick. “Child of war, man of music: Movies: Tai Thai of Garden Grove, who has a small part in ‘Heaven and earth,’ does well enough as a pop singer to steer clear of stereotypical Asian roles” Los Angeles times (Dec 25, 1993), Calendar, p. 2.


