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TV TIMES / 6d

JANE ASHER talks about HER BEATLE Paul McCartney
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ACTRESSES who play opposite Patrick McGoohan know they will never have any unwelcome or distracting attentions from him. He will be courteous, but no more.

He does not like being treated differently from the others except as the job demands; he dislikes being called a star.

"There are," he once said to me, "more stars in films than in the heavens—if you listen to the publicity men."

He has no illusions about acting. "What is an actor? An entertainer, a rogue, a vagabond, a clown; a man who plays at living and gets paid for it."

But, nonetheless, he is a master of his craft: there is no actor more knowledgeable of the technicalities of filming.

Patrick McGoohan is a man of strong opinions, of strong likes and dislikes.

Here are a few:

"I don't like people who obtrude on my privacy or anyone else's . . ."

"I don't like the trend of being able to go up to anyone in the street and demand a public answer from them on, for example, 'What do you think of Harold Wilson?' . . ."

"I don't like violence."

He dislikes being categorised. "You know, I fear by A.D. 2000 we'll all have numbers, no names" . . .

He dislikes the patronising attitude of people who think they know what kind of entertainment "the workers," as they call them, ought to have . . .

He takes active responsibility for what is put in his shows "when anyone could be watching from granny to the baby."

He likes work . . . and dislikes getting mixed up in the petty

**More
McGoohan
Magic**

**SCARED...
of having
nothing
to do**

by
**IAIN
SPROAT**

fringes of politics . . . He does not like people who treat other people as pieces of machinery.

He liked the musical "Hello Dolly": "My wife Joan and I saw it in New York and we felt better afterwards than if we'd been for a month's cruise."

He likes to watch a fine craftsman, "whether he's an actor or a bricklayer." He likes best on television what you could call "spontaneous documentaries"—like the shooting of Oswald (the alleged killer of President Kennedy).

Another occasion that moved him was the first time Kennedy appeared on Telstar. "I was so excited that I wept. There was the whole world bound together in one moment."

He likes the climate here. "I like the constant changes of weather. A nice day is a surprise, a joy. I wouldn't live anywhere else."

McGoohan is also imaginative and creative. He wants to produce films as well as act in them. Just now his imagination has been caught up with the idea of a film of life in A.D. 2000; of the day when workmen "will be able to operate their lathes by push-button from their beds. How are we going to educate people for an abundance of leisure like that?"

McGoohan, then, is something of a complex man. A man who is basically sensible, serious and sincere but overlays this with humour, a sense of fun, and enjoyable realism that makes him a pleasure to be with.

To the vital question, what makes Patrick McGoohan tick, he gave this as the nearest answer: "I enjoy working. I like being totally absorbed. I am scared of drifting, of having nothing to do."

And so I expect to see Patrick McGoohan move on to other horizons.

Patrick McGoohan makes a last-minute script check and at the same time gets a lift on a camera trolley

