Talent Femme Fatale

list of her recent, forgettable movies—Acting on Impulse, Desperate Trail, Chain of Desire—makes Linda Fiorentino laugh, then ask, "A spiral downward, isn't it?" After snaring a lead role in 1985's Vision Quest on her first audition, she got juicy roles in class acts by Martin Scorsese (After Hours) and Alan Rudolph (The Moderns). "Sometimes, I'll take a job because I need the money," she admits quite matter-of-factly. "I'll take the least offensive job I'm offered and then I'll pray to God it's



never seen." That won't be the case with *The Last Seduction*, a modern-day *noir* that delivers on the promise of director John Dahl's *Red Rock West*—and should also deliver a jolt to Fiorentino's career. As Bridget Gregory, she's a tough, deliciously manipulative scam artist who first dupes her husband out of every cent he has and then seduces a small-town rube to finish him off. Bridget, Fiorentino admits, has done more than just boost her profile. "She's so irredeemably evil and bitchy! In a way, it was therapeutic to play the part. I didn't have PMS for six months after we wrapped."