THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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MUSEUM ANNOUNCES NEW PROGRAM OF FILM SHOWINGS

FOR COMING YEAR AND A HALF

SPECIAL HOLIDAY FILM PROGRAM: December 26, 1949 - January 1, 1950: <u>The Mikado</u>, 1939, directed by Victor Schertzinger, with the D'Oyly Carte Company.

The Film Library of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, announces that its program of twice daily film showings for the coming year and a half will include a number of new acquisitions. Prints of <u>Pygmalion</u> and <u>Major Barbara</u> directed by Gabriel Pascal and <u>The Stars</u> <u>Look Down</u> by .Carol Reed have been added to make the representation of English films more complete. Public requests for John Barrymore revivals have been answered in part by the gift to the Film Library of <u>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</u>. Two Buster Keaton comedies not hitherto shown at the Museum have also been newly acquired. From Belgium and from France respectively the Film Library has acquired <u>La Perle</u> of Count Henri d'Ursel and <u>La Pêche à la Baleine</u> of Jacques Prévert, two avant-garde movies.

The Film Library's program of showings, changed weekly, will continue under the title "The Film Till Now." Beginning January 2, 1950, and running through July 15, 1951, the Film Library will again present this unique retrospect of a half-century of movie making along with the new acquisitions. Having compiled this imposing number of memorable films which have made cinema history, the Museum feels that a repeat showing of the entire series will acquaint an even larger public with the development of the film as an art medium.

A special addition to the Museum series of films on the dance will be shown early in February. This is a 40-minute sequence made especially for the Museum's Film Library, consisting of the ballet from the movie directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, <u>The Red Shoes</u>, and preceded by the filming of the original sketches for the decor and costumes designed by Hein Heckroth.

RICHARD GRIFFITH APPOINTED ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF FILM LIBRARY Miss Iris Barry, Director of the Museum of Modern Art's Film Library, has announced the appointment of Richard Griffith as Assistant to the Director of the Film Library. Mr. Griffith was first associated with the Museum's film activities in 1937 when the Rockefeller Foundation granted him a fellowship to study in the Film Library as assistant to Paul Rotha, famous British documentary film producer brought here by the Rockefeller Foundation to introduce American educators to pioneer British documentary films.

Subsequently Mr. Griffith spent some time writing film criticism, and in 1940 he returned to the Film Library as assistant to Iris Barry, then Curator. Later while in the Army he worked on Frank Capra's "Why We Fight" series of orientation films. After Mr. Griffith's discharge from the Army in 1946 he was appointed Executive Director of the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, an organization representing the interests of the motion picture public. He has resigned from this organization to take up his duties with the Film Library. His first project for the Museum is the writing of a companion piece on "The Talkies" to the recently published Museum bulletin, "Film Notes, The Silent Era." In addition he is the New York film correspondent for the Los Angeles Times and has collaborated with the author on a revised edition of "The Film Till Now" by Paul Rotha to be released in January.

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