

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR RELEASE:
Wednesday, July 11,
1956

No. 71

1956 GOLDEN LAUREL AWARDS FOR PRESENTATION AT EDINBURGH FILM FESTIVAL

The film winning the 1956 GOLDEN LAUREL AWARD will be announced and the award presented at a ceremony during the forthcoming Tenth International Edinburgh Film Festival. The GOLDEN LAUREL AWARD, the GOLDEN LAUREL MEDALS, and the GOLDEN LAUREL TROPHY are offered annually--this being the seventh successive year--by David O. Selznick for outstanding contributions, through the production of motion pictures of artistic merit, to the mutual understanding and good will among the peoples of the world.

Eligible films for these American awards are those of feature length, produced anywhere in the world, except those produced in the United States or by American producers or American companies abroad. The first public showing must have been in the United States of America between May 31, 1955 and May 31, 1956. Feature length documentaries are eligible.

A local American nominating committee will select a limited number of films which it thinks worthy of Golden Laurel Medals and of consideration by the Golden Laurel Jury for the Award. This nominating committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Richard Griffith, Curator of the Film Library of the Museum of Modern Art, will be comprised of leading film critics from the New York daily papers, weekly magazines, film trade papers, radio and television.

In addition to selecting the Award, the Golden Laurel Jury will select a film maker whose work through the years is considered to have served the purposes of the awards, the producer or director so chosen to receive the 1956 Golden Laurel Trophy.

The Golden Laurel Jury for the seventh annual series is comprised of the following members: The Hon. Ellis Arnall, Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Mr. Gardner Cowles, The Hon. William O. Douglas, Mr. Otto Harbach, Mr. René d'Harnoncourt, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Mr. Herbert Bayard Swope.

At the ceremony, a short excerpt from each Golden Laurel Medal winner will be screened. A sealed envelope from the auditors in New York who have tallied the votes will then be opened, the name of the 1956 winner announced, and the Golden Laurel Award presented to the film's representative. The Trophy will also be presented