

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

For release
Thursday, July 4, 1957
No. 55

FOURTH OF JULY FILM SHOWINGS AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Rene Clair's last silent film, never before released in this country, will be the Fourth of July film showing at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street. Two Timid Souls (Les Deux Timides) will be shown at 3 and 5:30, and again at 8:00 p.m. In connection with the Museum's late Thursday evening closing, 10 p.m. The film may also be seen on July 5 and 6 at 3 and 5:30.

Part of the Museum summer series "60 Years of French Film," Two Timid Souls has a cast including Pierre Batcheff, Vera Flory, Jim Gerald, Francoise Rosay and Pré Mills. It was made in 1928 immediately following The Italian Straw Hat. The opening sequence in which a nervous young lawyer arguing his first case inadvertently sends his client to jail is as funny as anything Clair ever did.

The film contains parodies of contemporary directors' attempts, a technique comparable in other media to the parodies of James Joyce in his writing and to certain work of Picasso and Toulouse-Lautrec.

Admission to the Museum, 75 cents, includes the film.

Three late silent films will make up the July 7 - 10 program in the series "60 Years of French Film" at the Museum of Modern Art.

Pretexte (1928) by Alexander Calder is a study in motion, light, and shadow by the American sculptor, then living in Paris. Paper forms and cigarette smoke are used experimentally.

Similar avant-garde subject matter - waves in motion and the play of a lighthouse beam, a study of light and rhythmic pattern - again is used in The Lighthouse Keepers (Les Gardiens du Phare), but here integrated with a simple story line. A 1929 Jean Grémillon film, it is often considered his best work.

Theme and Variations (1929) by Germaine Dulac contrasts a ballet dancer's grace with gears in movement. The film is a visual equivalent of Tchaikowsky's Theme and Variations, Opus 19, No. 6.

There will be daily showings at 3 and 5:30.

For additional information please contact Herbert Bronstein, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York City. Circle 5-8900