

176

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
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THE "VAMP" AND MICKEY MOUSE JOIN THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART FILM LIBRARY

The Museum of Modern Art Film Library announces the acquisition of three important groups of films: one group from Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation composed of thirteen motion pictures produced from 1915 to 1933; a group of animated cartoons from Walt Disney Productions including Plane Crazy, the first Mickey Mouse, which has never been released commercially, the first Silly Symphony, Skeleton Dance, and the first cartoon in Technicolor, Flowers and Trees; and the LeRoy Collection, a remarkable assemblage of motion picture memorabilia which includes old and rare books, photographs, slides, manuscripts, articles, letters and documents relating to the early days of the films, "stills" of motion pictures made in this country and abroad in the 90's and 1900's, and more than 350 films, short and long subjects, produced here and abroad between 1893 and 1910, all of them rare and many of them extremely important as landmarks in the development of the motion picture.

In presenting the Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation gift to the Museum of Modern Art Film Library, Mr. Sidney R. Kent, President, said: "I have looked into the activities of the Museum for the founding of a Film Library by the preservation of films made by different companies in the motion picture business, which have proven their outstanding merit by continuing to be of value in the future study and improvement of motion pictures. I find that this has received wholehearted support and it gives me great pleasure to include a number of the films of Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation for the use of the Museum." The films from Twentieth Century-Fox are as follows:

- A Fool There Was (Theda Bara) 1914
- Carmen (Theda Bara) 1915
- A Daughter of the Gods (Annette Kellerman) 1916
- Cleopatra (Theda Bara) 1917
- Riders of the Purple Sage, 1918
- Sky High (Tom Mix) 1921
- The Iron Horse, 1924
- Three Bad Men, 1926
- Sunrise, 1927
- Movietone Newsreel (Mussolini, Shaw, Tilden) 1927
- Sex Life of the Polyp (Benchley) 1928
- Cavalcade, 1933
- Special Cavalcade film, not issued commercially,
taken of the London stage production

Walt Disney, creator of Mickey Mouse and the Silly Symphonies, in giving his films, said: "The aim and purpose of the Museum of Modern Art Film Library are highly commendable and it gives me great pleasure

to cooperate by supplying certain of our cartoon films selected by you. Good luck and success." Walt Disney Productions gave the following films:

First animated cartoon made by Walt Disney, produced in 1920 for the Newman Theatre in Kansas City.
 Plane Crazy, 1928. First Mickey Mouse.
 Steamboat Willie, 1928. First Mickey Mouse in sound.
 Skeleton Dance, 1929. First Silly Symphony.
 Flowers and Trees, 1932. First cartoon in Technicolor.
 The Band Concert, 1935. First Mickey Mouse in Technicolor.

In addition, Mr. Disney has presented the Film Library with material selected to show step by step the various processes in the production of Mickey Mouse and Silly Symphony cartoons. The material includes the original rough story sketch; the scenario suggestions; the scenario changes into final form; scene layouts; completed scenes of animation with exposure sheets, music sheets, and the corresponding completed scenes with backgrounds; and painted celluloid sheets ready for the camera. Two scenes are followed through completely even to clippings from the finished film. The Museum of Modern Art Film Library plans to exhibit the step-by-step creation of a Disney cartoon later in the season.

The LeRoy Collection has been acquired by the Film Library through the courtesy of Mrs. LeRoy, widow of Jean A. LeRoy, American film pioneer, who assembled the Collection during a long period of years. Foremost in interest in the Collection are negatives and prints of the famous "trick" films of the Frenchman Georges Méliès, whose highly original and imaginative productions from 1896 onward marked the transition from the earliest foreign motion pictures of scenic views or simple action to the story-telling era. The Méliès films acquired include the famous Trip to the Moon and Arabian Nights, fantastic film stories produced with many camera and scenic tricks. Other notable old films in the LeRoy Collection are the first pictures ever taken out of the kinoscope and shown on a screen: The Execution of Mary, Queen of Scots (1893) and Washing the Baby; short reels showing Houdini performing his escape tricks; street scenes and news reels of the nineties such as the inauguration of President McKinley; early comedies and melodramas; and films showing celebrities of thirty and forty years ago.

Beginning January 1936, the Museum of Modern Art Film Library will circulate selected programs of noteworthy motion pictures to museums, colleges and study groups throughout the country.