

# The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 245-3200 Cable: Modernart

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FOR RELEASE:  
Thursday, December 5, 1968

## 45 YEARS OF COLUMBIA PICTURES OBSERVED

The Museum of Modern Art will present, from December 5th to January 6th, a sampling of representative pictures from Columbia Pictures, currently celebrating its forty-fifth anniversary.

Willard Van Dyke, Director of the Museum's Department of Film, in announcing the twenty-nine feature films selected, commented, "I am amazed not only at the variety of films - from two-reeler comedies to three-hour color spectacles - but also at the number of key American directors who at one time or another contributed their creative efforts to the development of a major Hollywood studio." He pointed out the difficulty of making a choice since many directors merited a complete retrospective. Columbia Pictures has had on its roster of directors Frank Capra, John Ford, Gregory La Cava, Howard Hawks, Ben Hecht, Max Ophuls, Fred Zinnemann, and many others who have made film history.

Those pictures on the program which may evoke a certain nostalgia include: "The Bitter Tea of General Yen" (1933), with Barbara Stanwyck, directed by Frank Capra; "His Girl Friday" (1940), a remake of "The Front Page," directed by Howard Hawks, with Cary Grant, Rosalind Russell, and Ralph Bellamy; "Here Comes Mr. Jordan" (1941), with Robert Montgomery and Evelyn Keyes; "Gilda" (1946), a Charles Vidor film starring Rita Hayworth; "The Jolson Story" (1946), directed by Alfred E. Green, with Larry Parks; "From Here to Eternity" (1953), the Fred Zinnemann film with Burt Lancaster, Montgomery Clift, Deborah Kerr, Donna Reed, and Frank Sinatra; and "Lawrence of Arabia" (1962), the David Lean film with Peter O'Toole, Sir Alec Guinness, and Anthony Quinn.

An evaluation of Columbia films led Mr. Van Dyke to conclude, "Columbia made a number of films in the Thirties and Forties, which, though rarely, if ever mentioned in film history books, merit our attention not only for charming dialogue and descriptive qualities, but also for incisive social comment on the American

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scene."

The Director of the Department of Film expressed a desire "to share the pleasures of less well-known films from the Columbia Archives." He cited, for example, "Man's Castle" (1933), made under the direction of Frank Borzage, with Spencer Tracy and Loretta Young; "The Reckless Moment" (1949), starring Joan Bennett and James Mason, directed by Max Ophuls; and "Man from Laramie" (1955), directed by Anthony Mann, with James Stewart and Arthur Kennedy.

The schedule of showings follows:

Thursday, December 5

"Platinum Blonde." 1931. Directed by Frank Capra. With Loretta Young, Jean Harlow, Reginald Owen. Script by Jo Swerling, Dorothy Howell, Robert Riskin; from a story by Harry E. Chandler and Douglas W. Churchill. 90 minutes.

Friday, December 6

"The Bitter Tea of General Yen." 1933. Directed by Frank Capra. With Barbara Stanwyck, Nils Asther, Walter Connolly. Script by Edward Paramore; from the novel by Grace Zaring Stone. 89 minutes.

Saturday, December 7

"Man's Castle." 1933. Directed by Frank Borzage. With Spencer Tracy, Loretta Young, Walter Connolly. Script by Jo Swerling; from a story by Lawrence Hazard. 70 minutes.

Sunday, December 8

"Whom the Gods Destroy." 1934. Directed by Walter Lang. With Walter Connolly and Robert Young. Script by Sidney Buchman and Fred Niblo, Jr.; from a story by Albert Payson Terhune. 70 minutes.

Monday, December 9

"The Whole Town's Talking." 1935. Directed by John Ford. With Edward G. Robinson, Jean Arthur, Wallace Ford. Script by Robert Riskin and Jo Swerling; from a story by W. R. Burnett. 95 minutes.

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Tuesday, December 10

"She Married Her Boss." 1935. Directed by Gregory La Cava. With Claudette Colbert, Melvyn Douglas. Script by Sidney Buchman; from a story by Thyra Sampter Winslow. 85 minutes.

Thursday, December 12

"Craig's Wife." 1936. Directed by Dorothy Arzner. With Rosalind Russell, John Boles, Billie Burke, Jane Darwell, Thomas Mitchell. Script by Mary C. Mc Call, Jr.; from the play by George Kelly. 75 minutes.

Friday, December 13

"Theodora Goes Wild." 1936. Directed by Richard Boleslawski. With Irene Dunne, Melvyn Douglas, Thomas Mitchell, Spring Byington. Script by Sidney Buchman; from Mary McCarthy's original story. 95 minutes.

Saturday, December 14

"Only Angels Have Wings." 1939. Directed by Howard Hawks. With Cary Grant, Jean Arthur, Richard Barthelmess, Rita Hayworth, Thomas Mitchell. Script by Jules Furthman; from a story by Howard Hawks. 120 minutes.

Sunday, December 15

"His Girl Friday." 1940. Directed by Howard Hawks. With Cary Grant, Rosalind Russell, Ralph Bellamy, Gene Lockhart, Roscoe Karns, Cliff Edwards. Script by Charles Lederer; from the play "The Front Page" by Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur. 92 minutes.

Monday, December 16

"Angels Over Broadway." 1940. Directed by Ben Hecht and Lee Garmes. With Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Rita Hayworth, Thomas Mitchell. Script by Ben Hecht. 80 minutes.

Tuesday, December 17

"Two in a Taxi." 1941. Directed by Robert Florey. With Anita Louise, Noah Beery, Jr. Script by Howard J. Green, Morton Thompson, Marvin Wald. 65 minutes.

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Thursday, December 19

"Here Comes Mr. Jordan." 1941. Directed by Alexander Hall. With Robert Montgomery, Evelyn Keyes, Claude Rains, Edward Everett Horton, James Gleason. Script by Sidney Buchman and Seton I. Miller; from the play "Heaven Can Wait" by Harry Segall. 93 minutes.

Friday, December 20

"Cover Girl." 1944. Directed by Charles Vidor. With Rita Hayworth, Gene Kelly, Lee Bowman, Phil Silvers, Eve Arden, Jinx Falkenburg, Otto Kruger. Script by Virginia Van Upp, Marion Parsonnet, Paul Gangelin; from a story by Erwin Gelsey. 107 minutes.

Saturday, December 21

"Gilda." 1946. Directed by Charles Vidor. With Rita Hayworth, Glenn Ford, Joseph Calleia. Script by Marion Parsonnet and Jo Swerling; from a story by E.A. Ellington. 110 minutes.

Sunday, December 22

"The Jolson Story." 1946. Directed by Alfred E. Green. With Larry Parks, Evelyn Keyes, William Demarest. Script by Harry Chandler and Andrew Solt. 128 minutes.

Monday, December 23

"Dead Reckoning." 1947. Directed by John Cromwell. With Humphrey Bogart, Elizabeth Scott, Morris Carnovsky. Script by Oliver H. P. Garrett and Steve Fisher; from a story by Gerald Adams and Sidney Biddell. 100 minutes.

Tuesday, December 24

"Shockproof." 1949. Directed by Douglas Sirk. With Cornell Wilde. Script by Samuel Fuller and Helen Deutsch. 79 minutes.

Thursday, December 26

"Reckless Moment." 1949. Directed by Max Ophuls. With Joan Bennett, James Mason, Geraldine Brooks. Script by Henry Garson, Robert W. Soderberg, Mel Dinelli, Robert (more)

Thursday, December 26 (cont'd)

Kent based on the story "The Blank Wall" by Elisabeth Saxany Holding. 82 minutes.

Friday, December 27

"China Venture." 1953. Directed by Don Siegel. With Edmond O'Brien, Barry Sullivan. Script by Anson Bond, George Worthing Yates, Richard Collins. 83 minutes.

Saturday, December 28

"From Here to Eternity." 1953. Directed by Fred Zinnemann. With Burt Lancaster, Montgomery Clift, Deborah Kerr, Frank Sinatra, Donna Reed, Ernest Borgnine, Philip Ober. Script by Daniel Taradash; from the novel by James Jones. 118 minutes.

Sunday, December 29

"On the Waterfront." 1954. Directed by Elia Kazan. With Marlon Brando, Eva Marie Saint, Karl Malden, Lee J. Cobb, Rod Steiger, Leif Erickson. Script by Budd Schulberg; from his original story suggested by the series of journalistic articles of Malcolm Johnson. 108 minutes.

Monday, December 30

"Man from Laramie." 1955. Directed by Anthony Mann. With James Stewart, Arthur Kennedy, Donald Crisp, Aline MacMahon, Wallace Ford. Script by Philip Yordan and Frank Burt; from a story by Thomas T. Flynn. 104 minutes.

Tuesday, December 31

"Jubal." 1956. Directed by Delmer Daves. With Glenn Ford, Ernest Borgnine, Rod Steiger, Felicia Farr, Noah Beery, Jr., Charles Bronson. Script by Russell S. Hughes and Delmer Daves; from the novel "Jubal Troop" by Paul I. Wellman. 101 minutes.

Thursday, January 2

"Crimson Kimono." 1959. Directed by Samuel Fuller. With Victoria Shaw, Glenn Corbett, James Shigeta. Script by Samuel Fuller. 82 minutes.

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Friday, January 3

"Ride Lonesome." 1959. Directed by Budd Boetticher. With Randolph Scott, Pernell Roberts, James Coburn. Script by Burt Kennedy. 73 minutes.

Saturday, January 4

"Two Rode Together." 1961. Directed by John Ford. With James Stewart, Richard Widmark, Shirley Jones, Andy Devine, Mae Marsh. Script by Frank Nugent; from the novel by Will Cook. 109 minutes.

Sunday, January 5

"Lawrence of Arabia." 1962. Directed by David Lean. With Peter O'Toole, Sir Alec Guinness, Anthony Quinn, Jack Hawkins, Jose Ferrer, Anthony Quayle, Claude Rains, Arthur Kennedy, Omar Sharif. Script by Robert Bolt. 221 minutes.

Monday, January 6

"The Professionals." 1966. Directed by Richard Brooks. With Burt Lancaster, Lee Marvin, Robert Ryan, Ralph Bellamy, Jack Palance, Claudia Cardinale. Script by Richard Brooks; from the novel "A Mule for the Marquessa" by Frank O'Rourke. 117 minutes.

Films are shown at 2:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. daily and Sunday. There is an additional 8:00 p.m. showing on Thursday evenings, and Saturday showings are at 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. On December 24 and December 31 there will be no 5:30 p.m. screening.

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Stills and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Lillian Gerard, Film Coordinator, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200.