

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

NO. 117

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

"HEARTS AND MINDS," CONTROVERSIAL VIETNAM DOCUMENTARY,
ONE OF NINE FILMS IN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM AT MUSEUM

"Hearts and Minds," Peter Davis' controversial and still unreleased documentary study of the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War, will be one of nine films from seven countries to be shown from December 5 through 16 at The Museum of Modern Art. The program has been compiled from films shown at the 1974 Cannes Film Festival in La Semaine Internationale de la Critique Française, a part of the Cannes Festival since 1962, in which are presented directors' first or second features, fiction or documentary, chosen by a panel of French and foreign critics living in Paris.

"Hearts and Minds," a blend of compilation footage and interviews, was called by Variety's Gene Moscovitz "a lucid, penetrating, moving look at the Vietnam War.... Editing, terse commentary and interviews with important politico people as well as ordinary soldiers knit this into an unusual pacifistic film sans hysteria." The other American picture on the program is Jerry Bruck, Jr.'s "I.F. Stone's Weekly," a portrait of the maverick journalist, narrated by Tom Wicker of The New York Times, and constructed from interviews with Stone and his associates plus relevant newsreel clips.

Switzerland is also represented by two films: Daniel Schmid's "La Paloma" and Thomas Koerfer's "The Death of the Flea Circus Director." "La Paloma" has been called by Variety "a sort of romantic, expressionist tale that pays homage to the German style of the early Twenties." The Koerfer film is a Brechtian parable about a man whose fleas are killed by insecticide and who reopens his flea circus with bubonic fleas and it becomes a theatre of the plague.

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Also on the program are "Through and Through," a Polish film about two poor people whose apparently brutal and senseless crime is seen to be a result of their oppressed place in society; "The Hour of Liberation Has Sounded," a Lebanese film by Heiny Srour, a woman who lived with troops in the liberated section of the Persian Gulf province of Oman, filming the military and attitudinal revolution underway there; "The Promised Land," a Chilean film about the depression and attempts to establish socialism and land reform in the 1930s; and, from Spain, "The Spirit of the Beehive," set in 1940, about the adventures of two young girls.

Completing the program is a selection from the first Critics' Week program in 1962, a French film "Adieu Philippine," a tale of two 18-year-old girls and a boy and their camaraderie and growing love.

Among the many directors whose early efforts have been shown in the series are Ousmane Sembène, Bernardo Bertolucci, Dusan Makavejev, Jean-Marie Straub and Ralph Bakshi.

The schedule follows; foreign language films have English subtitles.

- THROUGH AND THROUGH. 1973. Poland. By Grzegorz Krolikiewicz. 94 min.
December 5, 5:30 and December 7, 5:30
- HEARTS AND MINDS. 1974. U.S.A. By Peter Davis. 110 min.
December 5, 8:00 and December 7, 3:00
- THE HOUR OF LIBERATION HAS SOUNDED. 1974. Lebanon. By Heiny Srour. 62 min.
December 6, 2:00 and December 9, 5:30
- I.F. STONE'S WEEKLY. 1973. U.S.A. By Jerry Bruck, Jr. 62 min.
December 8, 5:30
- LA PALOMA. 1974. Switzerland. By Daniel Schmid. 107 min.
December 9, 2:00 and December 15, 5:30
- THE DEATH OF THE FLEE CIRCUS DIRECTOR, OR OTTO WEISS REFORMS HIS FIRM. 1973.
Switzerland. By Thomas Koerfer. 111 min.
December 12, 5:30 and December 14, 3:00
- ADIEU PHILIPPINE. 1962. France. By Jacques Rozier. 111 min.
December 12, 8:00
- PROMISED LAND. 1974. Chile. By Miguel Littin. 105 min.
December 13, 2:00 and December 16, 5:30
- THE SPIRIT OF THE BEEHIVE. 1973. Spain. By Victor Erice. 110 min.
December 14, 5:30 and December 16, 2:00

December 1974

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