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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

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FOR RELEASE

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, will entertain the members of the International Congress of the Musicological Society on Friday, September 15. The Society will have a luncheon on the penthouse terrace of the Museum and will then attend a film showing of special musical interest in the Museum's auditorium at 2:30. This special film showing, which will take the place of the Museum's usual 2:45 P.M. program of Méliès films, will be open to all Museum visitors.

The program, arranged by the Museum of Modern Art Film Library, consists of the following films:

Van Eyck's ADORATION OF THE MYSTIC LAMB

A Belgian motion picture showing this 15th Century masterpiece by the Flemish painter. As a musical background the film has a score of 15th Century melodies played on instruments of that period.

Excerpt from A NOUS LA LIBERTE

The musical score is an integral part of this famous French motion picture, written and directed by René Clair. Both the songs and the background music, written to accompany and point the action, were composed by Georges Auric.

LES TROIS PETITS COCHONS

Walt Disney's famous THREE LITTLE PIGS in French, with different words to the familiar tunes.

COLOUR BOX

An abstract film in which the design was composed to fit the music, and painted by the artist Len Lye directly on the color negative. This gay little film has since been used as an advertisement for the general post office of England. The artist has superimposed on abstract geometrical shapes postmarks and shilling signs, which dance through the film in vivid, lively fashion to the strains of "La Belle Creole," played by a Cuban orchestra.

The collection and preservation of musical scores for silent films, as well as of sound films for which important musical compositions have been composed or recorded, has been one of the special functions of the Museum's Film Library since it was founded in 1935. A collection of several thousand items of film music has been amassed, not only because music has always been recognized as an essential part of all film programs, but also in order to preserve a record of the use of music in relation to films.

The Musicological Society will examine the rare items in the Film Library's collection, which includes material written or arranged for the screen from the time Saint-Saens composed the first special film score for "The Assassination of the Duc de Guise" in 1908, through the early days of sound-film recording in 1927, to the present moment when so many eminent composers and conductors are working enthusiastically for the movies. Some of the important scores in the Film Library's collection are:

Joseph Carl Breil's special arrangement and composition
for THE BIRTH OF A NATION, 1915.

Mortimer Wilson's original score for Fairbank's THE THIEF
OF BAGDAD, 1924.

Erik Satie's original score for ENTR'ACTE, 1924.

Shostakovitch's original score for NEW BABYLON, 1929.