

The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FILM AND VIDEO ADVANCE SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 1983

*****SPECIAL SCREENINGS*****

September 1 LUCHINO VISCONTI'S THE LEOPARD

The Department of Film is pleased to present the New York premiere of Luchino Visconti's preferred version of his 1963 masterpiece, uncut and in Italian with English subtitles. Based on the novel by Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa, the film stars Burt Lancaster in one of the greatest performances of his career and features exquisite color photography by Giuseppe Rotunno, richly detailed sets by Mario Garbuglia and Giorgio Pes, and a superb musical score by Nino Rota. (Courtesy Twentieth Century-Fox Classics)

November 3 LUCHINO VISCONTI'S LUDWIG

This original edition of Visconti's sumptuous 1972 film, in Italian with English subtitles, has never before been shown in the United States. An ambitious, magnificent evocation of the enigmatic nineteenth-century monarch of Bavaria, Ludwig has now been restored to Visconti's original conception, due to the persistence of his closest collaborators--primarily his scriptwriter in many projects, Suso Cecchi D'Amico--and the interest of RAI (Radio-Televisione Italiana). Helmut Berger stars as the romantic, doomed monarch, with Romy Schneider as his cousin Elisabeth. (c. 257 minutes. Courtesy RAI and SACIS)

October 8 RUBBER TARZAN

October 9

Søren Kragh-Jacobsen's delightful 1981 film is the story of a mild-mannered boy who imagines himself to be as mighty as Tarzan. First shown at the Museum in May 1983, the film received such a warm response that it is now being brought back for the noontime FILMS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE series. (English subtitles. Courtesy Danish Information Services)

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Advance Schedule

*****COMING UP*****

October 4
through
December

WHAT'S HAPPENING?--Thirteenth Season

This Tuesday-night showcase for independently made films on social and political issues will feature documentaries on such varied topics as the early days of the nuclear freeze campaign, the experiences of nuns who leave their order, the complex politics of land redistribution in Zimbabwe, and the daily lives of an unemployed California family who are part of a present-day James Agee - Walker Evans world.

October 6 -
18

RECENT ACQUISITION: BULGARIAN FILMS

In its ongoing effort to acquire and exhibit representative films from around the world, the Department of Film has taken advantage of an exchange program of the Fédération Internationale des Archives du Film (FIAF) to add to its collection eleven Bulgarian feature films from the years 1958 through 1979. The exhibition of these newly struck, 35mm prints with English subtitles, made available by the Bulgarska Nacionalna Filmoteka, is the first in a projected series of programs from the Museum's growing collection of international cinema.

October 17
through
December

CINEPROBE--Sixteenth Season

This forum with independent filmmakers will feature recent works by Sharon Greytak (New York), Gabriella Rosaleva (Milan), Ernie Gehr (New York), and Lizzie Borden (New York). On the approach of his 70th birthday, James Broughton (Mill Valley, California) will present recent works made in collaboration with Joel Singer; and Kathy Rose (New York) will show a program in which she performs on stage with her animations. CINEPROBE is featured on Monday nights, alternating with VIDEO VIEWPOINTS (page 4).

November 4
until
December

RECENT FILMS FROM WEST GERMANY

In 1972, MoMA introduced to the United States a loose amalgam of young filmmakers from the Federal Republic of Germany known as Das Neue Kino. Since then, the Department of Film has charted the evolution of this still-maverick movement. The sixth season of RECENT FILMS FROM WEST GERMANY opens with Krieg und Frieden (War and Peace), a multi-episode, part-fiction, part-documentary collaboration by Heinrich Böll, Volker Schlöndorff, Alexander Kluge, Stefan Aust, and Axel Engstfeld; we expect to premiere at least a dozen other features in New York, all made since 1980. This series is presented in conjunction with the Export-Union des Deutschen Films, Munich, and the Federal German Film Board, New York, with the assistance of Goethe Haus, New York.

November
17 - 20

REDISCOVERY: CHARLES R. BOWERS

Bowers (1889 - 1946), an American pioneer in comedy, cartoons, and animation, was known in his time for his animation of Mutt and Jeff, Happy Hooligan, Jerry on the Job, and Bringing Up Father. This program of short films from 1916-1939 (many of them silent, with piano accompaniment) will be introduced by Louise Beaudet of the Cinémathèque Québécoise, who is co-author with Raymond Borde of Charles R. Bowers ou le mariage du slapstick et de l'animation.

November
18 - 20

BEST OF ANNECY

This series of two programs of short animated films has been selected from over 100 films from 30 nations presented by the 14th International Animated Film Festival held at Annecy, France, in June 1983. The programs have been selected by animation specialists Louise Beaudet and Charles Samu.

December 8
until
January

MERCHANT/IVORY PRODUCTIONS

Over the last 21 years, the team of Ismail Merchant and James Ivory--usually with the collaboration of novelist and screenwriter Ruth Praver Jhabvala--has produced a rich and varied body of work that focuses on the mutual attraction and conflicts of different cultures. This retrospective will encompass the entire history of Merchant/Ivory Productions, from their first film (The Householder) through their most recent, the semi-documentary The Courtesans of Bombay, which will premiere at the Museum.

*****ONGOING*****

Through
October 4

REDISCOVERING FRENCH FILM PART II

In its final weeks, this comprehensive survey of French film history will screen works from the 1950s--the final flowering of the classic tradition before the New Wave--and then pause to look back at the very beginnings of the long tradition of French filmmaking. Among the highlights in September will be two adaptations of Emile Zola's scathing social fiction--Julien Duvivier's Pot-Bouille and Marcel Carné's updated Thérèse Raquin--plus Max Ophüls's La Ronde and Le Plaisir. At the end of September, the Museum will present the premiere American showing of the first French sound feature, Les Trois Masques, which has just been restored by the Centre National de la Cinématographie. REDISCOVERING FRENCH FILM is made possible by generous support from Thomson-CSF, with additional assistance from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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V I D E O

*****COMING UP*****

October 3 - VIDEO ART: A HISTORY
January 3

This exhibition of photos and texts will examine the twenty-year history of video art and develop some of the principal themes that have emerged in this new art form. Tracing how artists have responded to changes in video technology and in the economic and social climate, the exhibition will also document the ways in which artists have treated television as a cultural commodity and as a vernacular medium that's instantly understood by people all over the world.

October 3 - VIDEO VIEWPOINTS
December 19

This Monday-night series, alternating with CINEPROBE, offers audiences a chance to see new works and discuss them with the video artists. This season, VIDEO VIEWPOINTS will present evenings with Les Levine, John Reilly and Julie Gustafson, Juan Downey, and Ulrike Rosenbach.

November THE NEW YORK WORLD TELEVISION FESTIVAL
14 - 22

The Museum of Modern Art is acting as host for the fifth annual edition of this festival, a showcase for those television programs that have been judged best in their categories in competitions at sixteen other festivals around the world.

*****ONGOING*****

Through THE SECOND LINK: VIEWPOINTS ON VIDEO IN THE EIGHTIES
September 27

The first international touring video exhibition, organized at the Walter Phillips Gallery at The Banff Centre School of Fine Arts, presents works by 30 artists from the United States, Canada, England, Belgium, the Netherlands, West Germany, and Poland. Six curators--including Barbara London of MoMA--made the selections, which provide a far-reaching survey of video art at the present moment.

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Film screenings are held in the Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2
Video screenings are held in the Video Gallery, Second Floor
For further information, the public may call (212) 708-9500
For a recorded announcement of daily film schedules: (212) 708-9490

For further PRESS information, please contact Stuart Klawans, Film Press Representative, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York 10019 (212) 708-9752.