

The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART RECEIVES COMPLETE ARCHIVAL COLLECTION OF THE WORK OF PIONEER FILM ANIMATOR NORMAN McLAREN Presentation Ceremony and Public Screening Scheduled for May 28

In 1941, a 27-year-old immigrant from Scotland joined the staff of the newly formed National Film Board of Canada, where, on a salary of forty dollars a week, he was to set up an animation unit. Since then, the NFBC has become known worldwide for the originality and excellence of its animation in every technique, and McLaren himself has been acclaimed as one of the undisputed masters of his art. This year, he retires from the National Film Board; to mark the occasion, and to help celebrate the 50th anniversary of MoMA's Department of Film, the NFBC is presenting a complete archival collection of Norman McLaren's work to the Film Archive of The Museum of Modern Art.

Richard E. Oldenburg, Director of The Museum of Modern Art, who will accept the McLaren collection on behalf of the Film Archive, remarks that "I am both honored and delighted to acknowledge this very generous donation by the National Film Board of Canada. It is our purpose at the Museum to collect and exhibit all the visual arts of our century, and so it is particularly gratifying to receive the complete McLaren collection, representing an artist who has brought together film, painting, drawing, and design to create a masterful and influential body of work. This gift enriches not only our Film Archive but indeed the American film community as a whole, which will now have permanent access through the Museum to these incomparable animated films."

The presentation of the collection will take place on Tuesday, May 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the Museum's Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2. Joan Pennefather, Vice-Commissioner of the National Film Board, will make the donation; the Department of Film hopes that Norman McLaren will be able to attend the ceremony. Following the presentation, there will be a screening of McLaren's works, selected by Laurence Kardish, Curator in the Department of Film. (The same 70-minute program also will be presented earlier on May 28, at 3:00 p.m.)

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In addition to the donation to MoMA, the National Film Board will present an identical archival collection to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Los Angeles on June 17. Thus, the Academy will become the West Coast center in the United States for students and scholars of McLaren's work, and MoMA's Department of Film will become the East Coast center.

The Department of Film expresses its deep gratitude to Francois N. Macerola, Government Film Commissioner and Chairman of the National Film Board of Canada, and to Kenneth Shere, U.S. General Manager of the NFBC, for making possible this donation of over sixty works by McLaren.

Tickets to the screenings and presentation will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to the public and are free with Museum admission: \$4.50 for adults, \$3.00 for students, \$2.00 for senior citizens. For further information, the public may call (212) 708-9500. For a recorded announcement of the day's screenings: (212) 708-9490.

COMPLETE SCHEDULE IS ATTACHED

May 1985

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

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SCHEDULE

NORMAN McLAREN AT THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA: A GIFT TO THE ARCHIVE

Tuesday, May 28, 1985

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2

Screenings at 3:00 and 6:30 p.m.:

Stars and Stripes. 1939. (United States; released by NFBC) 3 min.
Dots. 1940. (United States; released by NFBC) 2½ min.
Mail Early. 1941. (NFBC) 2 min.
V for Victory. 1941. (NFBC) 2 min.
Dollar Dance. 1943. (NFBC) 5½ min.
Alouette. 1944. (NFBC) 3 min.
Fiddle-de-Dee. 1947. (NFBC) 3½ min.
Begone Dull Care. 1949. (NFBC) 8 min.
Neighbours. 1952. (NFBC) 8 min.
Blinkity Blank. 1955. (NFBC) 5½ min.
Serenal. 1959. (NFBC) 3 min.
Opening Speech. 1960. (NFBC) 7 min.
Canon. 1964. (NFBC) 9½ min.
Pas de Deux. 1965. (NFBC) 13½ min.
Entire program c. 77 min.

The presentation of the McLaren collection to The Museum of Modern Art Film Archive will precede the 6:30 screening.

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