

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
December 1992

WINTER FILM HIGHLIGHTS

The Museum of Modern Art's winter season features programs ranging from the New York premieres of two new Canadian films to African-American films made in the late silent/early-sound era, as well as a look at Ken Russell's films of the 1980s.

THIS FILM IS FROM CANADA

January 5, 1993

In *Montréal vu par... (Montreal Sextet)* (1991), six of Canada's most talented filmmakers joined forces to offer a cinematic tribute to the city of Montreal on the occasion of its 350th birthday. The diversity, idiosyncrasy, and romance of the city and its citizens are captured in sketches by Denys Arcand, Michel Brault, Atom Egoyan, Jacques Leduc, Léa Pool, and Patricia Rozema. Organized by Adrienne Mancica, curator, Department of Film.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN PIONEERS

January 16 - 18, 1993

Six films from the late silent/early sound era, in which African-American artists participated either in front of or behind the camera, are presented in this three-day program. Selected from the Circulating Film and Video Library, the series includes films with two vastly different starring roles by Paul Robeson, the melodrama *Body and Soul* (1924) and the experimental narrative *Borderline* (1928). Also featured are *St. Louis Blues* (1928), with Bessie Smith, and *Black and Tan* (1929), with Duke Ellington. Organized by Jytte Jensen, assistant curator, Department of Film.

FROM THE ARCHIVES: CONRAD VEIDT

January 22 - 26, 1993

The actor Conrad Veidt (1883-1943) is remembered with a program of four films, beginning on the 100th anniversary of his birth. *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* (1920) presents what is perhaps his most famous role, Cesare the Somnambulist. *The Beloved Rogue* (1927), *The Thief of Bagdad* (1940), and *Casablanca* (1942)

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also feature important performances by the émigré actor. Organized by Laurence Kardish, curator, Department of Film.

FROM THE ARCHIVES: THE JANUS FILMS COLLECTION
January 24 - February 4, 1992

A selection of films acquired by the Museum through the generosity of Janus Films is presented in this program. Founded in 1956, Janus has been a leader in the field of film distribution. Due to its efforts, American audiences have been able to experience the work of such foreign filmmakers as Ingmar Bergman, François Truffaut, and Michelangelo Antonioni. Organized by Anne Morra, curatorial assistant, Department of Film.

KEN RUSSELL IN THE 1980s
February 4 - 9, 1993

Ken Russell is perhaps one of the most controversial filmmakers of British cinema. This program examines the ways in which his work juxtaposes reality with nightmares and beauty with darkness to create dramatic, memorable images. With the exception of *Altered States* (1980) and *The Rainbow* (1989), most of the seven feature films Russell made in the 1980s had small budgets and brief shooting schedules. Other highlights include *Crimes of Passion* (1984) and *The Lair of the White Worm* (1988). Organized by Nancy Barnes, Film Study Center assistant, Department of Film.

THIS FILM IS FROM CANADA
February 9, 1993

Requiem pour un beau sans-coeur (1992) is the feature-film debut of Robert Morin, a Canadian video artist known for his preoccupation with working-class heroes. This drama, presented with incisive wit and unexpected twists, is an absorbing account of the events surrounding three days of a convicted criminal who is caught after escaping from prison. Organized by Adrienne Mancia.

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For further information or film stills, contact Barbara Marshall, film press representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9752.