

The Museum of Modern Art

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MOMA AND DONNELL AGAIN COLLABORATE ON PROVOCATIVE "WHAT'S HAPPENING?" SERIES

The New York Public Library and The Museum of Modern Art, for the eighth consecutive year, will present "What's Happening?"--a weekly series of 45 to 90 minute programs featuring new films of provocative social and political interest. Once again, beginning October 10 and running through June of next year, the series will consist of hard-to-find documentaries and investigative cinema scheduled for Tuesdays at noon at the Donnell Library Center, 20 West 53 Street, and 6:00 p.m. across the street at The Museum of Modern Art.

William Sloan, Film Librarian for The New York Public Library and Guest Programmer for the Museum, has selected the films for the series since 1972, focusing on people and problems with works by independent American filmmakers as well as foreign productions and significant documentaries from the major networks and public broadcasting. The schedule for October and November provides a representative sampling of the varied sources, wide-ranging concerns and global scope that have won the "What's Happening?" program steadily increasing recognition as a vital, trenchant social and cultural resource.

The opening film of the series will be the original uncensored "Blacks Britannica" by David Koff, which was the subject of some controversy when WGBH-TV in Boston re-edited it for showing on PBS this summer. The following week, "The CIA Case Office" by Saul Landau presents a portrait of John Stockwell, a former CIA agent, and the CBS News documentary, "Pomeroy File," finds an ordinary citizen's privacy abruptly

invaded by the Texas State Police. In "Banners and Babies," scheduled October 24, Lorraine Gray surveys the history of women in the labor movement. And closing the month will be three environmental subjects: James Cabot's "Kaniapsikan," about a beautiful area in northern Quebec threatened by electric power construction; Neal Livingston's "Budworks," reporting on control of the budworms attacking spruce forests in maritime Canada; and "A Place to Live," on building ecologically sound homes in the forests of Maine, by Fred James.

"Billy in the Lowlands," a Jan Egleson drama in which a young man from the working class gets in trouble with the law, will open the November schedule. "Charleen" by Ross McElwee is a cinema-verité study of poet Charleen Swansea Whisnant, slated November 14. Two films on grassroots political reform, "Prairie Fire" by Rob Nilsson and John Hanson, on a Midwestern farmers' organization's overthrow of an established state government, and "Voices of the People," on the 1977 elections in India, will be screened November 21. The November schedule closes with "Inside Chinatown," an insider's view of Chinatown in San Francisco from Michael Chin and David Goldstein.

The only departure from the regular Tuesday schedule is during the first week in November, when "Billy in the Lowlands" will be shown on Monday, November 6 at noon.

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