

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR RELEASE

Sunday, September 1, 1957

No. 83

CHILDREN OF PARADISE AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The full-length Les Enfants du Paradis (Children of Paradise), never before seen in the United States, will be released September 1 - 3 at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street. There will be one daily showing only at 3 p.m.

Known as "France's most ambitious picture" and "the French answer to Gone With the Wind," Les Enfants was shown here in 1946 in an abridged version more than an hour shorter than the Museum's print, the same now being shown throughout Europe. It was made at enormous cost, hazardously and more or less in secret, during the German occupation (duplicate finished negatives in disguised containers were hidden in widely separated places). A spectacular and extravagant film set in mid-century Paris, it deals in epic fashion with the world of carnivals - clowns, tragedians, patrons, thieves, the high and low born - the world of Daumier, Toulouse-Lautrec and Dumas.

Directed by Marcel Carné from a script by Jacques Prévert, the film features Jean-Louis Barrault in an impersonation of the famous mime, Baptiste Debureau; Pierre Brasseur as Frédéric Lemaître, the posturing matinee idol; and Arletty as a grisette, beloved by both men.

Les Enfants (1943-5) is the current film in the Museum's summer series, "60 Years of French Film." No English titles.

LA LIBERATION DE PARIS AND LE RETOUR

The September 4 - 7 screening at the Museum of Modern Art will be La Liberation de Paris (1944), intimate newsreel footage edited by Roger Mercanton, and Le Retour (1945), Henri Cartier-Bresson's famous film of the liberation.

Le Retour, called "the greatest human document to come out of the war," is an almost intolerably moving film of the liberation of French prisoners of war from Nazi concentration camps, their march through the shattered Reich, and the return to their homes.

There will be two showings daily at 3 and 5:30, with an evening program Thursday, September 5 at 8, in connection with the Museum's late Thursday closing, 10 p.m.

P

For further information please contact Herbert Bronstein, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York. Circle 5-8900.