## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

film 364

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR RELEASE Sunday, November 17, 1957 No. 129

## MUSEUM OF MODERN ART TO SHOW THE ADVENTURES OF PRINCE ACHMED

Lotte Reininger's The Adventures of Prince Achmed (1926) will be presented November 17 - 20 at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street. There will be daily showings at 3 and 5:30.

A meeting of two art forms, puppetry and the silhouette, Prince Achmed portrays, through the cinematic medium, figure shapes in motion. Silhouette figures cut from black paper were used exclusively; limbs, cut separately, were attached with wires to permit movement. Settings, usually framed with a foreground of black paper, were composed of layers of transparent white paper arranged to give the illusion of depth through varying tones of gray. Each movement of the paper figures necessitated a separate photograph. Miss Reiniger's resulting film, a fantasy based on portions of the Arabian Nights, required a quarter of a million photographs and three years work.

The musical score is arranged and played by Arthur Kleiner.

Prince Achmed is the current program in the Museum series, "Past and Present: A Selection of German Films, 1896 - 1957."

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