The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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-- CINEPROBE --

14th CONSECUTIVE SEASON OF INDEPENDENT FILM OPENS OCTOBER 19

Established in 1968 as a forum for independent and experimental film, CINEPROBE, one of the longest running programs of its kind in the country, begins its 14th consecutive season on Monday, October 19. Six filmmakers will screen and discuss their work in MoMA's Roy and Niuta Titus Auditorium on Mondays, at 6:00 p.m., from October 19 through December 14.

CINEPROBE has hosted over 200 filmmakers from America and abroad, exhibiting a wide range of work in the vanguard of film and introducing New York audiences to the filmmakers' own perceptions and analyses of their creations and their goals.

CINEPROBE's opening program is the American premiere of MARCEL HANOUN'S 1979 film, LA NUIT CLAIRE. Hanoun, one of France's leading avant-garde filmmakers, employs strong imagery and little dialogue in his lyrical, non-narrative piece, based on the Orpheus/Eurydice myth.

New York filmmaker ROBERT GARDNER will visit CINEPROBE on October 26 for the screening of his Harlem-made feature CLARENCE AND ANGEL (1980). The title characters are inner-city school kids. Clarence has recently moved to New York, and Angel, more confident and experienced, befriends him and accomplishes what the school fails -- he teaches him to read. The friendship between the two 'problem students' is funny and moving.

On November 16 another New York filmmaker, LIZ WHITE, will ke present for the screening of her adaptation of Shakespeare's OTHELLO. The fruit of almost twenty years' work, OTHELLO was shot in 1962 and reached its present form in 1980. Yaphet Kotto, in his first film role, heads the all-black cast, and a jazz score punctuates White's adaptation. Liz White, a veteran Broadway wardrobe mistress, credits the collaborative efforts of the crew, also all black, with the realization of the project.

ANNE REES-MOGG is a London filmmaker whose three short works, TRANS-MOGRIFICATION (1980), REAL TIME (1974) and LIVING MEMORY (1980) will be presented at CINEPROBE on November 23. She began her career as a painter

and has been experimenting with structure, narrative and time in film since 1966.

BETTE GORDON appears at CINEPROBE on December 7 for the screening of her first feature-length film, EMPTY SUITCASES (1980) and other recent work. Gordon, who is the Educational Director of the Collective for Living Cinema in New York, explores narrative strategies within a feminist context in her film: as she describes it, "EMPTY SUITCASES is a narrative derived from film's own material and my concern for exploring issues of representation and identification in cinema. The film presents fragments of a woman's life -- her work, her friendships and relationships - in short, her economic, sexual and artistic struggles."

CINEPROBE'S 14th season closes on December 14 with the screening of two films by MIKHAIL BOGIN, who emigrated to the United States from the U.S.S.R. in 1975, after struggles with the Soviet film authorities led him to seek greater artistic freedom. His Soviet-made film CVOYE (A BALLAD OF LOVE, a.k.a. TWO, 1965) will be shown with his recently-completed New York film, A PRIVATE LIFE, which deals with the emigre experiences of a German-Jewish couple in their seventies who have made New York their home.

Because MoMA's Titus Auditorium will be closed for renovations during several months in early 1982, CINEPROBE's 14th season is shorter than usual and the series will not be resumed until the following autumn.

CINEPROBE selections are made by Larry Kardish and Adrienne Mancia of The Department of Film. CINEPROBE is made possible by grants from the New York State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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For further press information, please call Alicia Springer, Film Press Representative, 956-7289.