## The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

14TH SEASON OF INDEPENDENT DOCUMENTARIES ADDRESSES TOPICAL ISSUES

On Tuesday, October 16, the weekly WHAT'S HAPPENING? series will begin its fourteenth season as a showcase for independently made films on political and social issues. In many cases these films, which bring a fresh and controversial viewpoint to a variety of issues, receive their premiere New York showing in the series. All screenings are held on Tuesdays in the Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2.

The fall schedule of WHAT'S HAPPENING? begins with Ross Spears's feature-length history of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Electric Valley, and continues with a number of programs concentrating on ecology, the environment, and regional cultures. There will be two tributes to notable independent film co-operatives: a salute to Bullfrog Films of Oley, Pennsylvania, with screenings of films on the environment, and a tribute to Appalshop Films of Whitesburg, Kentucky, featuring documentaries on the image of the hillbilly in popular culture and on the Carters, the "First Family of Country Music." Other programs devoted to local issues (whether political or ecological) include Hell's Kitchen Chronicle by Maren and Reed Erskine, a profile of a changing New York neighborhood, and Roosevelt, New Jersey: Visions of Utopia by Richard Kroehling, on a planned, agro-industrial co-operative.

Among the other films of note to be shown this fall are Breaking the Silence: The Generation After the Holocaust by Edward A. Mason; Conversations with Roy DeCarava by Carroll Blue, a portrait of the noted black photographer; and a memorial screening for the feminist filmmaker Geri Ashur. Programs in the latter portion of the 14th season of WHAT'S HAPPENING? will be announced at a later date.

The films presented in WHAT'S HAPPENING? are selected by William Sloan, Librarian of the Circulating Film Library, Department of Film. The Museum's film programs are made possible by public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts.

For further information, the public may call (212) 708-9500. FALL SCHEDULE IS ATTACHED

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\* For further PRESS information, please contact Stuart Klawans, Film Press Representative, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019 (212) 708-9752.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING?--14TH SEASON

## FALL SCHEDULE

- OCTOBER 16 2:30 and 6:00 <u>Electric Valley</u>. 1983. Ross Spears. On the 50-year history of the Tennessee Valley Authority. 92 min.
- OCTOBER 23 2:30 and 6:00 In memory of Geri Ashur, feminist filmmaker: Make-out. 1970./Me and Stella. 1976./Janie's Janie. 1971. Entire program 60 min.
- OCTOBER 30 3:00 and 6:30 Hell's Kitchen Chronicle. 1984. Maren and Reed Erskine. Profile of a changing New York neighborhood. 60 min.
- NOVEMBER 6 3:00 and 6:30 <u>Nisei Soldier</u>. 1984. United Nations Film Unit. On Japanese-American soldiers in World War II./<u>Free Namibia</u>. 1983. United Nations Film Unit. On apartheid in Namibia, formerly South West Africa. Entire program 57 min.
- NOVEMBER 13 3:00 and 6:30 A tribute to Bullfrog Films of Oley, Pennsylvania. Screenings of films on the environment and ecology. Two different programs, each approximately 90 min.
- NOVEMBER 27 3:00 and 6:30 Roosevelt, New Jersey: Visions of Utopia. 1983. Richard Kroehling. The history of a planned, agro-industrial co-operative. 52 min.
- DECEMBER 4 3:00 and 6:30 A tribute to Appalshop Films of Whitesburg, Kentucky:

  Strangers and Kin. 1984. Herb E. Smith. A history of the hillbilly image. 58 min./Sunny Side of Life. 1984. Scott Faulkner, Jack Wright, Anthony Slone. Profile of the Carters, the "First Family of Country Music." 57 min.
- DECEMBER 11 3:00 and 6:30 <u>Breaking the Silence: The Generation After the Holocaust</u>. 1984. Edward A. Mason. Children of Holocaust survivors discuss their concerns. 58 min.
- DECEMBER 18 3:00 and 6:30 Conversations with Roy DeCarava. 1983. Carroll Blue.

  The noted black photographer discusses his work. 28 min./Great Branches,

  New Roots: The Hmong Family. 1984. Rita Ladoux, Kathleen Laughlin,

  Nancy Haley. On the lives of Hmong refugees resettled in the U.S.

  43 min.

Later programs in WHAT'S HAPPENING? to be announced.