

The Museum of Modern Art Department of Film

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For Immediate Release
October 1985

INTERNATIONAL TOUR OF HUNGARIAN EXPERIMENTAL FILMS TO BE LAUNCHED AT MoMA NOVEMBER 14-18

The unique combination of social documentary and formal innovation that characterizes films from the Béla Balázs Studio and other Hungarian studios is the focus of BBS BUDAPEST: TWENTY YEARS OF HUNGARIAN EXPERIMENTAL FILM, which will begin its national tour in The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2 at The Museum of Modern Art from November 14 through 18. The five-part exhibition includes eighteen subtitled films from 1963 to 1982, many of which have never been seen in the United States.

Most of the films in the exhibition were made at the Béla Balázs Studio (BBS Budapest), which provides recent film school graduates with practical experience. Since it was established in 1961, BBS Budapest has played a major role in the development of Hungarian cinema into a significant international presence.

The films in the program are articulations, often ironic, of controversial artistic, social, and political concerns. Many are documentaries ranging from the sociological works of the sixties to the radical films of the seventies that experimented with sound and image. The program also includes animation and both narrative and abstract films. Selections were made by László Beke, Professor of Art History at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and a Founding Member of BBS Budapest, and by Yvette Bíró, former Professor of Film at the Budapest College of Drama and Cinematic Art and currently Associate Professor at New York University's Institute of Film and Television.

BBS BUDAPEST: TWENTY YEARS OF HUNGARIAN EXPERIMENTAL FILM has been organized by the American Federation of Arts. These inaugural screenings of the exhibition have been arranged for the Museum by Laurence Kardish, curator in the Department of Film.

An illustrated catalog with original essays by László Beke, J. Hoberman, Peter Rubin, and Charles Samu, as well as filmographies, program notes, and bibliographical information, will be available in the Museum Store.

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For additional press information and photographic materials contact Howard Feinstein, film press representative, The Museum of Modern Art 212/708-9752; or Sandra Gilbert, public information director, or Celia Barbour, public information assistant, The American Federation of Arts 212/988-7700, extension 33 or 34.