

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
October 1987

CIRCULATING FILM LIBRARY: NEW ACQUISITIONS, November 5 - 30

ANIMATION, November 6 - 12

KINOSHITA: 7 FILMS, November 27 - December 8

CIRCULATING FILM LIBRARY: NEW ACQUISITIONS
November 5 - 30

Nearly seventy years of film are represented in the exhibition CIRCULATING FILM LIBRARY: NEW ACQUISITIONS, beginning at The Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, November 5, 1987. The forty-six titles in the series, which include narrative, avant-garde, and animated films, illustrate the diversity of the collection in the Museum's Circulating Film Library.

Among the narrative features in the exhibition are Maurice Tourneur's silent The Last of the Mohicans (1920) and Robert Kramer's political films of the sixties and seventies. Inspired by the antiwar sentiment and political activity of that period, Kramer's works include The Edge (1967), Ice (1969), and Milestones (1975).

Avant-garde films in the series include Kenneth MacPherson's Borderline (1928), a rarely seen silent with Paul Robeson and his wife Estanda and the poet H. D.; films made by László Moholy-Nagy in the twenties and thirties; and contemporary American works by Stan Brakhage and Ernie Gehr.

Animated works in the exhibition include three recent films by the Canadian Caroline Leaf, as well as a program of shorts by such contemporary American artists as Robert Breer, Jane Aaron, and George Griffin.

- more -

238

CIRCULATING FILM LIBRARY: NEW ACQUISITIONS continues in the Museum's Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1 through November 30. The series has been organized by William Sloan, librarian, Circulating Film Library. All of the films in the exhibition are available in 16mm for rental from the Circulating Film Library, 212/708-9530.

ANIMATION

November 6 - 12

The art of animation is celebrated by The Museum of Modern Art in a week-long exhibition of four programs, beginning on Friday, November 6, in the Museum's Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2. The programs include:

BEST OF ANNECY '87

November 6 - 7

This annual series features two different groups of shorts, chosen from more than 200 films screened at this year's International Festival of Animation in Annecy, France. The selections have been made by Louise Beaudet, curator for animation at The Cinémathèque Québécoise, Montreal. These screenings have been organized by Adrienne Mancía, curator, and Jytte Jensen, curatorial assistant, in the Museum's Department of Film.

SOVIET ANIMATION: NORSTEIN, HITRUK, AND YOUNG ARTISTS

November 8

Internationally acclaimed animators Juri Norstein and Feodor Hitruk show examples of their films, including Mr. Norstein's work-in-progress The Overcoat, based on the story by Gogol. The filmmakers are also screening films by a new generation of Soviet animators that they have trained. This program has been organized by Charles Samu, director of intermission programming, Home Box Office, New York.

CINEPROBE

November 9: David Ehrlich

November 10: Larry Jordan

The two CINEPROBE evenings include David Ehrlich's presentation of works made between 1976 and 1987 by himself and his grade school students, and Larry Jordan's introduction of his animated feature Sophie's Place (1986). Available tickets for CINEPROBE, a forum for independent and avant-garde filmmakers, are free after 6:00 p.m.

- 3 -

SUPERMAN

November 11 - 12

Comprised of seven 35mm prints of the first Superman cartoons, this program is presented on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of that mythical character. Max and Dave Fleischer produced and directed these cartoons for Paramount Pictures in 1940 and 1941. Adrienne Mancina, curator, and Jytte Jensen, curatorial assistant, Department of Film, have organized this program for the Museum.

KINOSHITA: 7 FILMS

November 27 - December 8

Tragedies, melodramas, and popular "home dramas" comprise an exhibition of seven films by the versatile Japanese director Keisuke Kinoshita. KINOSHITA: 7 FILMS opens at The Museum of Modern Art on Friday, November 27, 1987. His 1947 feature Army/Rikugun, starring Kinuyo Tanaka and Chishu Ryu, will be screened at 3:00 p.m., followed by the 1948 film Outcast/The Broken Commandment/Hakai at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Kinoshita was employed by the Shochiku Company, where he worked regularly with the same technicians and actors, the famed Kinoshita family. "And it is the family," according to film historian Donald Richie, "which is the major concern of his films, the Japanese family at large. . . . Kinoshita has created (in his forty-some films, plus many TV dramas) an entire world of his own--one which faithfully reflects the Japanese: their sorrows, their joys. In so doing, he has also shown how universal these emotions are. His world is that in which all of us live." Other films in the exhibition include A Record of Youth/Shonenki (1951) and The Yotsuyu Ghost Story, Parts 1 and 2/Shinshaku Yotsuy Kaidan, I-II (1949).

- more -

KINOSHITA: 7 FILMS remains on view in the Museum's Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2 through December 8. The series continues the collaboration of the Museum's Department of Film with the Film Center of the Japan Society, New York, where a more extensive exhibition of works by Kinoshita begins December 15. The program at the Museum has been organized by Adrienne Mancina, curator, Department of Film.

* * *

No. 100

For further press information and photographic materials, contact Howard Feinstein, film press representative, The Museum of Modern Art; 212 /708-9752.