

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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NEW ITALIAN FILM BY DE SICA TO HAVE PREMIERE AT MUSEUM

A gala American premiere of Miracle in Milan, the new Italian film by Vittorio de Sica, who directed Bicycle Thief and Shoe Shine, will take place at the Museum of Modern Art on Sunday, December 16, at 8:45, for members of the Museum only. Through the generosity of Mr. Joseph Burstyn, who brought to the United States this film that is to open to the public at the World Theatre on December 17, this private preview is being held for the benefit of the Museum's varied programs that contribute to cultural life particularly in New York.

This fantasy-comedy is a delightful kind of mass wish-fulfilment dream of great spirit and humor. Technically it makes use of the many rarely used, intriguing tricks and illusions of which only the film is capable. Miracle in Milan was awarded the Grand Prix of the 1951 Cannes Film Festival and the International Critics' Award. Of the film Dudley Nichols, leading American screen writer, says: "de Sica has done the most exciting job of the decade in Miracle in Milan. It is a work of power, love and laughter - wonderful! I think it makes him number one man in the film world." The Museum feels that its members will welcome this opportunity to see such a film and at the same time benefit the Museum's activities.

Richard Griffith, Curator of the Museum's Film Library, says of the film:

Out of the same materials from which he fashioned his tragic The Bicycle Thief, Vittorio de Sica has created a new film as altogether unlike its great predecessor as is conceivable, but equally worthy to stand among the achievements of the motion picture. Miracle in Milan is a fantastic comedy with undertones of satire. Its leitmotifs are goodness and kindness and human brotherhood. I can think of no film like it except A Nous la Liberté, and if anything René Clair's masterpiece is flattered by the comparison.