

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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NEW CIRCULATING FILM PROGRAM AVAILABLE FROM MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The Film Library of the Museum of Modern Art released today its new catalogue of Circulating Film Programs. Seven series of film programs are offered covering the development of the narrative, the elements of the American film, the work of individual directors and noteworthy examples of French, German, Russian and Scandinavian films - silent and sound. This circulating part of the Film Library's unique collection of films brought together during the past twenty years, is made available to educational and cultural organizations throughout the country.

The Film Library also announced that the COMING OF SOUND PROGRAM (page 4) which includes Al Jolson's famous singing sequence from the JAZZ SINGER, and an excerpt from THE LIGHT OF NEW YORK, has been restored to circulation through the courtesy of Warner Brothers. This program is considered of utmost importance to the student of cinema and is a requisite for well planned courses in the motion picture. New acquisitions include such important films as Carl Theodore Dreyer's LEAVES FROM SATAN'S BOOK (page 14), the film record of the German Olympic Games in 1936, Leni Riefenstahl's OLYMPIA (page 13), THUNDER OVER MEXICO (page 15) edited from the footage shot in 1931-32 by Eisenstein, Alexandrov and Tisse for an unfinished film, QUE VIVA MEXICO!, Valentino's BLOOD AND SAND (page 6). Other films of interest available for the first time are Keaton's BALLOONATICS (page 7), Harry Baur's VOLPONE (page 12) to mention just a few.

The purpose of the Film Library's Circulating Program, which was established in 1936, is stated in the foreward to the catalogue, "The motion picture is of growing importance in the academic world. As a medium peculiarly characteristic of our culture, it concerns students of sociology as profoundly as it concerns students of the fine arts. An acquaintance with film technique provides ground for future workers in the medium and for instructors....At the same time, an understanding of the film becomes essential to any well-rounded education, since it exercises so profound an influence on the attitude toward life of the millions who attend film showings. In order to make significant films of the past available for critical appreciation and analysis, the Film Library has created a circulating library of film programs which illustrate the various phases through which this contemporary art has passed since the first movie was projected on a screen for public entertainment in 1895. This first hand material is at the disposal of educational institutions throughout the more...

country, and a new field for research - the history, and the esthetic and social content of the motion picture - has thus been opened up to the student."

The cost of preserving and circulating films is immense and the Film Library is grateful for the contributions it received last year from the following organizations and institutions:

Berkshire Film Society, Pittsfield, Mass.

Contemporary Films, Inc., New York, N. Y.

Cornell University Theatre, Ithaca, N. Y.

Film Perspectives, Wilmington, Del.

Reid H. Ray Industries, St. Paul, Minn.

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, La.

University of Chicago Documentary Film Group, Chicago, Ill.

University of New Hampshire Film Society, Durham, N. H.

Catalogues are available on request from Margareta Akermark, Circulation Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York City, Circle 5-8900.