GOLDWYN FILM CYCLE AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

After two years of preparation, 24 film programs constituting the cycle "A PRODUCER'S WORK: THE FILMS OF SAMUEL GOLDWYN," will be presented by the Museum of Modern Art Film Library in the Museum's auditorium beginning Monday, February 13, at 3 and 5:30 p.m.

The cycle includes representative examples of Mr. Goldwyn's work from his entrance into motion pictures with the Jesse L. Lasky Company, through his years with the Goldwyn Company, the period of release of his independent productions through First National, United Artists, and RKO down to the production of what is generally considered his masterpiece, THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES. A study of Mr. Goldwyn's work, SAMUEL GOLDWYN: THE PRODUCER AND HIS FILMS, by Richard Griffith, will be published by the Museum in conjunction with the cycle, which lasts until July 22.

In announcing the Goldwyn series, Richard Griffith, Curator of the Film Library, said:

"It is characteristic of Samuel Goldwyn's place in the history of motion pictures that he should have imported THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI into the United States. Even as he did so, he must have known that this celebrated and profoundly influential film had small appeal for the mass market, but such was his passion for quality in films that he could not let the opportunity go by. It is that passion for quality which has characterised every phase of his career, and out of it have come his greatest professional triumphs, as well as what he considers his failures.

"Quality is an equivocal word, and in motion pictures it takes many forms. In Mr. Goldwyn's case it has taken the form of a tireless exploration of the frontiers of a popular art, probing their growing points and trying to expand their actual limits. Perhaps his greatest achievement is the introduction to the screen of subject matter thought to be beyond the capacity of large audiences, and proving, at first only to his own satisfaction but later to that of the motion picture world at large, that virtually any kind of story can be brought to the screen with success, so long as it is a good story well told. ARROWSMITH, DODSWORTH, THESE THREE, and WUTHERING HEIGHTS were daring experiments, and some of them endangered their producer's independence. But all of them have found a lasting audience among that section of the nation not normally numbered among movie fans. THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES, of course, has become a national institution.

"The design of this Samuel Goldwyn exhibition is to exemplify the function of a motion picture producer as it has been illustrated by the most consistently exploratory of them all. For permission to show the films, the Film Library has to thank..."
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Goldwyn; for help in the preparation of the exhibition and the monograph, SAMUEL GOLDWYN: THE PRODUCER AND HIS FILMS, I am indebted to James Mulvey, Martin Davis, Jr., and David Golding of the Goldwyn staff, and John Adams and Mrs. Eileen Bowser of the Film Library. My special thanks are due to Mrs. Goldwyn for opening to me the contents of a retentive memory, and for advice and judgement as well as information.

THE FILMS OF SAMUEL GOLDWYN - daily showings at 3 and 5:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted)

Feb. 13-19: CARMEN (excerpt) (1915), directed by Cecil B. De Mille, with Geraldine Farrar and Wallace Reid. Produced by the Jesse L. Lasky Feature Motion Picture Co.

THAIS (excerpt) (1918), directed by Frank Crane for the Goldwyn Company. With Mary Garden.


Feb. 20-26: *JUBIL0 (1919), directed by Clarence Badger for the Goldwyn Co., from the story by Ben Ames Williams. With Will Rogers.

DOUBLING FOR ROMEO (1921), directed by Clarence Badger for the Goldwyn Co. Story by Elmer Rice, Will Rogers and William Shakespeare. With Will Rogers.

Feb. 27 - March 4: THE PENALTY (1920), directed by Wallace Worsley for the Goldwyn Co. With Lon Chaney.


* One showing only at 3:00 p.m. more.....


July 2 - 8: The first screen test of Danny Kaye for his role in UP IN ARMS (1944)


Music for the silent films arranged and played by Arthur Kleiner

All programs subject to change without notice

* One showing only at 3:00 p.m.