

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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MAN'S HOPE AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Man's Hope, André Malraux's film of the Spanish Civil War, will be shown August 25-28 at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street. There will be daily showings at 3 and 5:30.

Written, directed and produced by the author, and adapted from his novel of the same name, Man's Hope was made in Barcelona late in 1938, while the city was under bombardment. In January, 1939, with the approach of Franco's armies, Malraux smuggled the film, still unedited, into France.

Two actual incidents of the war which was a prelude to global conflict are depicted in the film. The principal action concerns the efforts of a peasant who has worked on the construction of an airfield for the Fascists to locate a bombing squadron and direct a mission to destroy the field.

Denise Marion, Malraux's assistant in Barcelona, recalls the extraordinary problems in making the film: "The technical difficulties were of the kind you would find in any country at war. Every time there was an alert - and there were alerts daily - the electric current was cut off. A number of outdoor scenes had to be shot on the airfield - between two bombing raids. . . . For the first time in screen history scenes were shot actually inside a bomber. . . . The views of the planes's takeoff, the plane in flight and other aerial views were shot from the only Potez plane in possession of the Republican army."

Acted by non-professional participants, against conditions of battle, the film has an understandable and moving authenticity.

Man's Hope, known also as Espoir and Sierra de Teruel, is the current program in the Museum summer series, "60 Years of French Film."

Malraux is best known recently for his book of art criticism, Voices of Silence.

For further information, please contact Herbert Bronstein, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York. Circle 5-8900.