

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

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NEW PUERTO RICAN FILMS TO BE SHOWN AT MUSEUM

Three unusual films made in Puerto Rico will be shown for the first time to the New York public at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Wednesday, October 16 at 8:15 p.m. Produced by the Division of Community Education of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for use in a general education program in the island, the three documentaries are El Puente (The Bridge), Modesta and El Santero (The Saint Maker).

El Puente (The Bridge), Award of Merit winner at the Edinburgh Festival in 1954, deals with a remedial situation long accepted as a fact of nature. A school house is separated from the village by a small stream which becomes a torrent whenever a tropical storm strikes. The children must either remain supperless overnight or risk drowning to get to their homes. A humorous incident rouses the people to communal activity and a bridge is built.

In a genial and earthy incident based on the Lysistrata Theme, village women in Modesta proclaim a bill of rights in order to improve their status.

An aged artist-craftsman in the color film El Santero (The Saint Maker) fashions his religious image and takes it to the Cathedral Square for sale.

The showing is sponsored by the Film Library and the Junior Council of the Museum of Modern Art. Under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Donald B. Straus, the Junior Council is a group of friends of the Museum which has initiated many special events.

The Puerto Rican evening was organized by Mr. Carroll Cartwright. Assistance was provided by the following individuals and corporations: Fred G. Wale, Department of Education, Division of Community Education, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; the RCA International Division; the Government Development Bank for Puerto Rico; Rene Marques; Willard Van Dyke; Irving Jacoby; Clarence Senior, Chief, Migration Division, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Gilbert Crandall, Economic Development Administration, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Program notes are available on request.

For further information please contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y. CI 5-8900