In an unusual arrangement, seven evening previews of LAST YEAR AT MARIENBAD, prize-winning new French film, will be presented from March 1 through March 7 at the Carnegie Hall Cinema, 885 Seventh Avenue, for the benefit of the Museum of Modern Art’s 30th Anniversary Drive. The film, which broke attendance records in Paris and was awarded top prize at the Venice International Film Festival, is being distributed in this country by Astor Pictures which has arranged the benefit previews for the Museum. It will have its first public showing on March 7, with a regular showing to the public immediately following the final special preview.

Tickets for the series of previews at $5 each are available only at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street. They can be ordered by mail or bought in the Museum lobby. Showings will begin at 8:30 p.m.

LAST YEAR AT MARIENBAD was directed by Alain Resnais, well-known here for his “Hiroshima Mon Amour” and written by Alain Robbe-Grillet, French novelist. It has been widely reviewed and discussed in Europe and has been nominated by the French Government for the Academy Award in this country.

Filmed in baroque castles built by Ludwig II of Bavaria, LAST YEAR AT MARIENBAD is made in an entirely new style. The events, as they are revealed to the audience, are not only portrayed by the actors as they happened but also as the characters would have liked them to happen. The past is fused with the present and the future, real scenes with imaginary scenes.

Delphine Seyrig, gowned by Chanel, plays the woman in this strange triangle which takes place in a great castle which has been turned into an elegant resort for the very rich. Giorgio Albertazzi is the stranger and Sacha Pitoeff, the man whose role is that of the woman’s protector.

The Museum of Modern Art’s 30th Anniversary Drive, which will benefit from the ticket sales for these seven previews, aims at funds for a new building, enlarged program and additional endowment.

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