The Independent Film, a new series presented jointly by the Museum of Modern Art Film Library and Cinema 16, will begin Thursday evening, April 11, at 8, in the Museum auditorium, 11 West 53 Street. Opening with Animation and Abstraction, films by Carmen d'Avino, Robert Breer, and Ed Emshwiller, the series consists of films made outside the commercial motion picture industry during the past two decades. When possible, film makers will be present to introduce their work. Subsequent Thursday evening programs will be given May 2, Surrealism and Poetry, and June 13, Symbolism and the Unconscious. The series will be continued.

Thursdays at 8 p.m.

April 11 - Animation and Abstraction
Carmen d'Avino: The Room, The Big 'O', Motif, A Trip, Stone Sonata
Robert Breer: Horse Over Teakettle, Blazes, Jamestown Balloons, Cats
Ed Emshwiller: Dance Chromatic, Thanatopsis, Transformation, Lifelines

May 2 - Surrealism and Poetry
Sidney Peterson: The Lead Shoes, The Petrified Dog
Peterson and Broughton: The Potted Psalm

June 13 - Symbolism and the Unconscious
Maya Deren: Meshes of the Afternoon, Ritual in Transfigured Time, Choreography for Camera, At Land, The Very Eye of Night

Tickets for each program in the series, $1.50 for Museum and Cinema 16 members, $2.00 for non-members, are available at the Museum or by mail. Tickets include admission to the Museum, open Thursday evenings until 9. Dinner and refreshments are available in the Garden Cafeteria.

In announcing The Independent Film series, Richard Griffith, Curator of the Museum's Film Library said: "During the last twenty years, an ever-increasing number of men and women have turned to the making of films for serious purposes of their own, rather than for profit. Film-making, usually thought of as necessarily a collective enterprise, is here seen as individual expression. These makers of films have been concerned to use new, experimental techniques and to attempt themes and subjects not ordinarily considered movie material. Their efforts over the years have by now produced a large and varied body of work, which, it is safe to say, is now a permanent part of the film repertory.

"That this movement took hold and endured - as previous American avant-gardes have not - is largely due to Cinema 16, the largest private film society in the world which, under the leadership of Amos Vogel, has consistently recognized the work of independent film makers through showings to its members and in general publicizing and circulating such work. But since, by its nature, Cinema 16's showings have been private and thus limited to the membership of the society, Mr. Vogel and I believe that the time has come for the public showing of such films at a convenient time and place, and we have joined forces to this end."

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

Afternoon film showing in the Museum auditorium daily at 5:30, Saturday and Sunday, 3 and 5:30 (until further notice) Through May 2 - Television U.S.A.: Thirteen Seasons (Began Feb. 5) May 5 - Nov. 16 - The Cinema of Alfred Hitchcock, 37 features and 6 tv films.