

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

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Willard Van Dyke, recently appointed Director of The Museum of Modern Art Film Library, has announced a new and more flexible film programming policy to go into effect March 13.

Under the new plan four different kinds of film programs will be offered at the Museum each week. Two major cycles will be presented; one running Thursdays through Saturdays, the other Sundays through Tuesdays. On Wednesday afternoons films from the Museum's internationally famous archives will be shown alphabetically in a series estimated to take seven years to complete. And at noon every Wednesday a different hour-long program of old and new shorts, silent and sound, including documentaries, animated and art films from here and abroad, will be presented.

"The audience for films today is so diverse," Mr. Van Dyke said, "and there is so much old and new material of value that we want to present a greater variety of programs in our 15 weekly screenings. Our new plan, we hope, will give serious scholars, students and the interested public a greater opportunity to see something each week in which they have a particular interest. Formerly all screenings, for sometimes as long as three months, were devoted to a single subject, such as the D. W. Griffith series."

The new programming begins with two cycles: ERNST LUBITSCH: THE SOUND FILMS, Sundays through Tuesdays (March 13-April 5), and NINE RUSSIAN FILMS 1917-1928, Thursdays through Saturdays (March 17-26). The first films from the archive series will be shown on Wednesday, March 16: AT THE CROSSROADS OF LIFE (1908), directed by Wallace McCutcheon; and THE AVENGING CONSCIENCE (1914), directed by D. W. Griffith. The "Wednesdays at Noon" shorts begin March 16 with a program of four films ranging from a 1914 Italian comedy to the 1958 documentary, THE HIGHWAY, by Hilary Harris.

Details on these programs attached.

Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Linda Gordon, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. Circle 5-8900.