

The Museum of Modern Art

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Continuing the series of RUSSIAN FILMS shown at The Museum of Modern Art in recent weeks, the Film Library will present films made between 1919 and 1934 selected from the Museum's Collection. The current selections begin on April 10-11 with THE YOUTH OF MAXIM, a classic portrayal of revolutionary youth, directed by Grigori Kozintzev and Leonid Trauberg with music by Dmitri Shostakovitch.

The Russian films will be interspersed with the new series, FILMS OF YOUTH, and the regular Wednesday programs of short subjects at noon, and afternoon showings of films from the Museum's Film Archives.

On April 12 and 17, CHAPEYEV made in 1934 by the Vassiliev Brothers will be shown. Eisenstein compared this film to a Shakespearian chronicle play, "creating within an epic framework a brilliant gallery of heroic individuals." On April 18-19, two films from the early experimental Fex Group and Kuleshov Workshop will be shown: THE CLOAK, directed by Kozintzev and Trauberg, who led the expressionist theater which played an important part in the early years of the Soviet film; and BY THE LAW, directed by Lev Kuleshov, whose considerable talents are nowhere better shown than in this Alaskan drama told with unusual physiological tension. Both films were made in 1926.

These films will be followed on April 24-25 by the Soviet version of Swift's classic "Gulliver's Travels," an animated film with puppets directed by Alexander Ptushko, called THE NEW GULLIVER (1934). The role of Gulliver is portrayed by Vassily Konstantinov.

FRAGMENT OF AN EMPIRE, the parable of a man who loses his memory in World War I and regains it ten years later in the new world of Soviet Russia, dramatizes the social problems arising from the new order. The famous sequence in which the hero regains his memory is probably the most complex exposition of human psychology on film. Directed by Friedrich Ermler and starring Fyodor Nikitin, it will be shown on April 26 and May 1.

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Other films to be shown in the Russian series are: ROAD TO LIFE (1931) on May 2 and 3; POLIKUSHKA (1919) and CHESS FEVER (1925) on May 8 and 9; and PROFESSOR MAMLOCK (1938) on May 10 and 15.

Stills and 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.