

# The Museum of Modern Art

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## DIRECTOR OF FILM DEPARTMENT SCOURS EASTERN EUROPE FOR NEW FILMS

Willard Van Dyke, Director of the Department of Film of the Museum of Modern Art, will spend the next month in Poland, Roumania and Yugoslavia, where he will view new films with the object of completing the Yugoslav Retrospective scheduled for next fall, as well as a new Polish Film Series the Museum is planning before the end of the year.

"We are also contemplating a Roumanian Film Series for 1970," he said, before his departure, "since word has reached us that there is an upsurge of talent and many new young directors in that country." A Hungarian film show is also a future possibility.

From Poland, Van Dyke expects to obtain mostly shorts, including animation and documentary pictures that are original and experimental. The Polish films will be accompanied by an exhibition of Polish Film Posters that Mr. Van Dyke will select while he is abroad. "The Poles", he said, "have some of the best film posters in the world. Many of them are now in the Museum's collection, but there are some newer ones that we would like to add." They will be displayed in the Auditorium Gallery, which is adjacent to the Museum's theatre.

While in Yugoslavia, the Museum's Film Director will complete the survey he started last spring. "Many new films then in work will now be finished," he said. "They will be shown at the Pula Festival on July 25th, which is open only to Yugoslav films. I'm attending the Festival to bring myself up-to-date on the very latest efforts of the Yugoslavs, with whom I'm already familiar from an earlier trip."

The Yugoslav Film Series is scheduled for a two week period at the Museum. It will follow the major Russian Film Retrospective to take place in the early fall, immediately after the New York Film Festival. The Russian Film Retrospective will cover a fifty year period and will probably include several new Russian films.

Van Dyke also announced that the Yugoslav Film Show would coincide with an exhibition of work by 30 Yugoslavian artists. Prints created since 1965 from celluloid sheets and movable plates, as well as traditional techniques of etching, woodcut and serigraph, will be shown.

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With the major Russian Retrospective preceding the scheduled shows from Yugoslavia and Poland, and the contemplated shows from Roumania and Hungary, the Museum's Department of Film intends to cover most of Eastern Europe. Two years ago it presented a new Czechoslovakian Film Series just prior to the accelerated interest in films from that country. It also has shown Bulgarian films.

"What continues to please us here at the Museum", Van Dyke commented, "is the public's consuming interest in film of every type and of every nationality. It is a challenge to find new sources and new talent but at the same time we continue to present film-makers of the past to fill in the gaps in the knowledge of the new and most film-minded generation ever."

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Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Lillian Gerard, Film Coordinator, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 956-7501,7296