

# The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## WHAT'S HAPPENING? SERIES RESUMED AT MUSEUM

What's Happening?, a weekly series of documentary films concerning domestic and foreign social and political issues, will begin its second year at The Museum of Modern Art on Monday, December 6, 3:30 pm, with a showing of Frederick Wiseman's "Basic Training." The 89-minute investigation of the army follows a company of draftees and enlisted men through basic training. The film will be repeated the following day at noon. Wiseman is the highly acclaimed documentary filmmaker responsible for "Hospital" and "High School."

Programmed by John Hanhardt of the Museum's Department of Film, What's Happening? during the month of December will concern filmed events and issues in Canada, Brazil, Chile, Spain and China, ranging in time from the Spanish Civil War to the present.

The National Film Board of Canada will be represented by two Challenge for Change films. "VTR-St-Jacques" documents an experiment in using video-tape recording (VTR) and closed circuit television to stimulate social action in a poor district of Montreal. This film will be shown Monday, December 13 at 3:30 and Tuesday, December 14 at noon, when "Encounter with Saul Alinsky Part II: Rama Indian Reserve" will also be presented. The latter is a film study of Saul Alinsky talking to young Canadian Indians about how to improve their conditions vis à vis the white establishment.

The following week, on December 20 and 21, there will be two films made in South America by Haskell Wexler and Saul Landau. "Brazil: A Report on Torture" includes the testimony of seventeen Brazilian political ex-prisoners about the torture they underwent while in jail. "Interview with President Salvador Allende" is a discussion with the President of Chile on his plans to implement socialism in his country.

The final program in December is "Bethune," a 1964 film by Donald Brittain and John Kemeny. "Bethune" is a film biography of Dr. Norman Bethune, a Canadian doctor who served with the Loyalists during the Spanish Civil War and with the North Chinese

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Army during the Sino - Japanese War.

Admission to What's Happening? is on a first come, first served basis. On Mondays, admission to the Museum is a voluntary contribution (Pay What You Wish); Tuesdays the Museum entrance fee is \$1.75 and it includes the film showings as well as the exhibits. Members are admitted free.

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Additional information available from Lillian Gerard, Film Coordinator, and Mark Segal, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York 10019. Tel: (212) 956 - 7296.