

## MUSEUM PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCES

As a special tribute to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on its fiftieth anniversary, The Museum of Modern Art will devote a series of eight evenings to Academy Award-winning pictures which will be shown to Museum members.

The first picture to receive this honor, the silent 1928 "Wings," directed by William Wellman, will be represented on the program, selected by the Museum's Department of Film. It includes films from the past five decades, among them: "All Quiet on the Western Front," directed by Lewis Milestone in 1930; "How Green Was My Valley," made in 1941 by John Ford; Elia Kazan's "On The Water-front" of 1954; Norman Jewison's "In the Heat of the Night" of 1967, and other cinema landmarks.

The series begins on September 9th, and on September 20th at the final showing of the renowned "Casablanca" filmed in 1942 by Michael Curtiz, Gregory Peck will make a personal appearance. Mr. Peck, a former Academy president, now a member of the Board of Governors, will discuss the Academy's work and answer questions from the audience. An excerpt from "To Kill a Mockingbird," starring the actor, who received an Academy Award for his performance in it, will be shown.

With this salute to the Academy, the Museum, pointed out Ted Perry, Director of the Department of Film, is returning an honor it received forty years ago. In 1937 the Academy gave a Special Award to The Museum of Modern Art Film Library "for its significant work in collecting films dating from 1895 to the present and for the first time making available to the public the means of studying the historical and aesthetic development of the motion picture as one of the major arts." The Film Library, the first of its kind, had been organized only two years earlier. Today it has an extensive film collection,

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from which the present program of "Best Films," all of which were preserved by it, have been drawn.

Walter Mirisch, four-term President of the Academy, has said of the "Best Picture" award, "looking back over the list of films so honored it is pleasing to note that every feature recognized by the Academy has now become a classic of the screen. Many of the choices of the Academy members were controversial in their day, but time has generally proven and approved of our members' selections."

The Academy, founded in 1927 by 36 members, now has 3,900 members, artists and craftsmen, representing actors, art directors, cinematographers, directors, executives, film editors, musicians, producers, publicists, sound engineers and writers. Its founders could hardly have envisioned its growth and present day stature, although Howard W. Koch, current Academy President, recently commented, "we hope it has fulfilled their greatest expectations. The Academy is now a force of worldwide recognition and esteem, and does so many things to promote higher picture standards and help encourage younger picture makers."

In many ways the Academy and the Museum's Department of Film share a common goal, remarked Ted Perry, who indicated that both institutions were dedicated to the motion picture as an art form, to its preservation, to its history and study, in all its manifold aspects, and to its continued progress. The pictures on which Academy Awards have been bestowed, he stated, in themselves will provide future generations with a vision and record of our times.

The Schedule follows:

Friday, September 9 at 8:30	GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT
Saturday, September 10 at 7:30	CAVALCADE
Sunday, September 11 at 7:30	HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY
Monday, September 12 at 8:45	ON THE WATERFRONT
Friday, September 16 at 8:00	WINGS
Saturday, September 17 at 7:00	IN THE HEAT OF THE NIGHT
Sunday, September 18 at 7:30	ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT
Tuesday, September 20 at 8:00	CASABLANCA

August 1977

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