

The Museum of Modern Art

50th Anniversary



NO. 41
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEONARD MALTIN TO LECTURE ON GREAT SCREEN COMICS

From Mack Sennett and Charlie Chaplin to Mel Brooks and Woody Allen, comedy has been one of the richest facets of the American screen. The extraordinary variety of our comic film heritage will be the subject of REMEMBERED LAUGHTER: THE GREAT SCREEN COMICS, the summer LOOKING AT FILM lecture series, presented by the Department of Film of The Museum of Modern Art. Scheduled for Wednesday evenings at 6:00 P.M. and Saturdays at 8:00 P.M. from July 18 through August 11, 1979, this series will be conducted by noted film historian Leonard Maltin, author of such books as THE DISNEY FILMS, BEHIND THE CAMERA and THE GREAT MOVIE COMEDIANS.

In the course of this eight-lecture series, Mr. Maltin will pay tribute to a wide spectrum of movie clowns covering a sixty-year span of film history. The work of legendary funnymen from Buster Keaton and Laurel and Hardy to W.C. Fields and Bob Hope will be examined in detail; additionally, one of the important features of this lecture series will be a re-evaluation of many of the unjustly neglected figures of American screen comedy, including Raymond Griffith, Charley Chase and Clark and McCullough. Mr. Maltin will also focus on the work of that select circle of major film comedienues including Mabel Normand, Marie Dressler, Marion Davies and Mae West. Among the other topics to be discussed are the ways in which the comedians of the twenties faced the transition from silent to

sound movies, and the lessons which our contemporary clowns have learned from their past comic masters.

All lectures will be accompanied by appropriate film programs, including extremely rare comedy short subjects and features. As with all LOOKING AT FILM series, REMEMBERED LAUGHTER: THE GREAT SCREEN COMICS is offered to the general public as well as film specialists. The course is open to all, regardless of previous film experience, at a registration fee of \$25 for the entire eight-lecture series. The Department of Film gratefully acknowledges the cooperation of the following persons and organizations in obtaining films for this series: Paramount Pictures Corporation, MCA-Universal, Time-Life Films, Kino International Corporation, UCLA Film Archives, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Inc., Films Inc., Macmillan-Audio Brandon, United Artists Corporation, Mr. William K. Everson, Blackhawk Films, Mr. Albert Brooks, Mr. Robert Shanks, Comco Productions.

LOOKING AT FILM is made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), a federal agency. The Museum of Modern Art is a NEH Learning Museum.

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