

The Museum of Modern Art

50th Anniversary



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RELEASE AT WILL

"JOHN CASSAVETES, FILMMAKER AND ACTOR" OPENS AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

A retrospective exhibition of the work of JOHN CASSAVETES, FILMMAKER AND ACTOR, opens at The Museum of Modern Art on Friday, June 20 and runs through Friday, July 11, 1980. Cassavetes will introduce the 8:30 PM screening, opening day.

This comprehensive program spans two decades of work and includes not only the nine feature films Cassavetes has directed to date -- from SHADOWS (1960) to OPENING NIGHT (1978), being given its first New York public screenings -- but also a number of major theatrical films (ROSEMARY'S BABY, THE DIRTY DOZEN) and television films (JOHNNY STACCATO episodes, THE ALFRED HITCHCOCK HOUR and COLUMBO) in which Cassavetes, the actor, plays a major role.

At the filmmaker's request, the exhibition opens with HUSBANDS (1970, from Columbia Pictures), in which Cassavetes directs himself, Ben Gazzara and Peter Falk. HUSBANDS will be shown at 8:30 PM on Friday, June 20, with Mr. Cassavetes present, and again at 8:30 PM on Friday, July 4. CRIME IN THE STREETS (1956, from Allied Artists/Lorimar), one of the earliest films in which Cassavetes appears as an actor, will be shown at 6 PM on opening day and at 8:30 PM, June 21.

"Over the past two decades John Cassavetes, as a filmmaker working for the most part independently of the 'industry', has created a distinct, consistent and significant body of work," according to Larry Kardish, Associate Curator of Film. "The significance in part derives from the filmmaker's exceptional ability with actors, both in the remarkable performances he extracts from them (particularly Gena Rowlands, Peter Falk and Ben Gazzara), and in the manner

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