

40415²⁶
THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1940

DUTCH FILMS FOR MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

A special showing of documentary films by the eminent young director, Joris Ivens, was given for Mr. J. A. Schuurman, Consul General of the Netherlands, together with members of Holland House and of the Holland Club, at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, today.

It was announced at that time that Mr. Ivens has presented the Museum of Modern Art Film Library with a collection of his motion pictures from his first work, The Bridge, made in Amsterdam in 1928 when he was an enthusiastic amateur still working in his father's photographic supply shop, through the cine-poem Rain (1929), The Breakers (1930), a simple drama of life among Dutch fishermen, Pile Driving, made as part of an unexecuted film on building construction in Holland, The Draining of the Zuiderzee, Dutch Architecture and We Are Building, all of which were produced for the Building Trades Union of the Netherlands and culminated finally in New Earth (1934).

Ivens, who came to the United States in 1936 and subsequently made the famous documentaries Spanish Earth and The 400,000,000, has since entered the United States Government's documentary film production. He was present at the program of his films at the Museum today as were also Helen Van Dongen and John Ferno, respectively his able collaborator and cameraman in recent years.

The Museum hopes subsequently also to obtain Ivens' Borinage, a documentary of the Belgian mining district where the painter van Gogh ministered and worked.