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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART OFFERS A SALUTE TO
      RICHARD LESTER

Whether they be satires, thrillers, romances, burlesques, or works
that fall into no convenient category, Richard Lester's films bear the
unmistakable stamp of his style: rhythms that are quick and clean, a
comic spirit that is original, edgy, and frequently complex, and an
intelligence that, while always entertaining, is often psychologically
acute and socially aware as well. With the release of his 19th feature
film, Superman III, and his visit to New York for its premiere, the
Department of Film has arranged A SALUTÉ TO RICHARD LESTER on Tuesday,
June 14. The filmmaker and the Department have selected three films
for the program--The Knack, Petulia, and Robin and Marian--which
illustrate not only the apparent ease with which the director works in
various genres, but how he molds the genre to his particular style.

The screenings, to be held in the Museum's Roy and Niuta Titus
Theater 2, will begin at noon with The Knack, and How to Get It (1965,
84 minutes, MGM/UA), Mr. Lester's adaptation of the Ann Jellicoe play,
with Rita Tushingham, Ray Brooks, and Michael Crawford. At 2:30, the
Museum will screen Petulia (1968, 105 minutes, Warner Bros.), with
Julie Christie, George C. Scott, Richard Chamberlain, and Shirley Knight.
And at 5:45, Mr. Lester will be on hand to introduce Robin and Marian
(1976, 112 minutes, Columbia Pictures), starring Sean Connery and
Audrey Hepburn.

The Museum's film program is made possible with funds from the
New York State Council on the Arts and by a grant from the National
Endowment for the Arts. For further information, the public may
call (212) 708-9400.

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