FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FILM LIBRARY TO SCREEN UNIQUE FILM CYCLE:

THE CAREER OF THE LATE DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS

For the first time in movie history, the whole career of a famous screen star will be put on view to the general public.

Ever since the death of Douglas Fairbanks in 1939, the Museum of Modern Art Film Library has been besieged by requests from all over the country to present a memorial program of the works of the famous actor-producer.

Fortunately, last year Mr. Fairbanks had generously presented to the Film Library his entire private collection of his own films.

Miss Iris Barry, Curator of the Film Library, now announces that from this material the Film Library has selected sixteen films arranged as a series of eight separate programs. They survey the whole screen character and career of Douglas Fairbanks, from his first to his last American film, THE LAMB, 1915 to MR. ROBINSON CRUSOE, 1936.

Douglas Fairbanks was a leading Broadway actor when the newly-formed Triangle Corporation persuaded him to make movies. He was unconvinced, until John Emerson and Anita Loos saw that Fairbanks had more to give to the movies than to the stage, namely the bounding health, ingratiating personality, and exhilarating gymnastic ability that was previously known only to his friends. After making THE LAMB, Fairbanks never went back to the legitimate theatre. He made altogether 48 films. In later years, he became a good friend to the Museum of Modern Art and before he died had made a gift to the Film Library of 2,700,000 feet of film. This, aside from the D. W. Griffith collection, is the only complete assembling of one man's film career in the possession of the Film Library. In the forthcoming series, the public can see over again their remembered favorites. But they can also enjoy the experience, which is new to moviemaking, of seeing the continuous development of
a personal style of film comedy and in the process follow the
technical development of movie-making from 1915 to 1932.

In the program note, Mr. Alistair Cooke, who saw over a
half million feet of Fairbanks celluloid in order to prepare the
programs, says:

"In kidding almost every fad and affectation of the
War and post-war years, Fairbanks held a flattering
mirror up to the average American. For a whole generation,
he made physical well-being and infectious optimism the
essence of heroics and was so immensely popular at the
time that he was able to sign up D'Artagnan, Robin Hood,
Petruchio, and other literary heroes, to play Douglas
Fairbanks,—to the enhanced prestige of them all.

"In his early comedies he usually starts out as one
of his own luckless disciples. In the last reel he soars
beyond Horatio Alger to become a boy's hero who cannot
be matched to-day in the movies and approximates most
nearly to the comic-strip Superman. Incidentally, he is
probably the only screen star to relegate the professional
athletic stand-in to the status of a lagging amateur."

The first program of the series is a Film Library innova-
tion. Called "The Screen Character of Douglas Fairbanks" it
sketches in two hours the whole of Fairbanks' movie career, showing
by what means he was able over seventeen years of movie production
to keep his title of 'the best liked figure on the screen'. This
program uses excerpts chronologically from THE LAMB-1915, A MODERN
MUSKETEER-1917, SAY YOUNG FELLOW-1918, KNICKERBOCKER BUCKAROO-1919,

This series of Eight Programs will run daily in the
auditorium of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, at
4 p.m. (Sundays at 2 and 4 p.m.) from Monday, May 6th till the last
day of June.

After the two-month exhibition in New York, these pro-
grams will become available for non-commercial circulation to
museums, colleges, schools, and film-study groups throughout the
country.

THE PROGRAM SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Monday, May 6 - The Screen Character of Douglas Fairbanks: This
   first program spans practically the whole of
   Fairbanks' movie career, including reels from -
   The Lamb, The Mollycoddle, Say Young Fellow,
   Knickerbocker Buckaroo, A Modern Musketeer,
   Don Q, and The Taming of the Shrew (1929)

2. Tuesday, May 7 - Easterner vs. Westerner: Manhattan Madness (1916)
   and Wild and Woolly (1917)

3. Wednesday, May 8 - Debunker of Fads: When The Clouds Roll By
   (1919) and The Nut (1921)
4. Thursday, May 9 - The Cavalier (I): The Mark of Zorro (1920)
5. Friday, May 10 - The Cavalier (II): The Three Musketeers (1921)
6. Saturday, May 11 - Extravaganza: The Thief of Bagdad (1923-4)
7. Sunday, May 12 - The Cavalier (III): The Black Pirate (1926)

Tues., May 14 - Fairbanks' Screen Character
Wed., May 15 - Manhattan Madness and Wild and Woolly
Thurs., May 16 - When the Clouds Roll By and The Nut
Fri., May 17 - The Mark of Zorro
Sat., May 18 - The Three Musketeers
Sun., May 19 - The Thief of Bagdad
Mon., May 20 - The Black Pirate
Tues., May 21 - Around the World in 80 Minutes

Wed., May 22 - Fairbanks' Screen Character
Thurs., May 23 - Manhattan Madness and Wild and Woolly
Fri., May 24 - When the Clouds Roll By and The Nut
Sat., May 25 - The Mark of Zorro
Sun., May 26 - The Three Musketeers
Mon., May 27 - The Thief of Bagdad
Tues., May 28 - The Black Pirate
Wed., May 29 - Around the World in 80 Minutes

Thurs., May 30 - Fairbanks' Screen Character
Fri., May 31 - Manhattan Madness and Wild and Woolly
Sat., June 1 - When the Clouds Roll By and The Nut
Sun., June 2 - The Mark of Zorro
Mon., June 3 - The Three Musketeers
Tues., June 4 - The Thief of Bagdad
Wed., June 5 - The Black Pirate
Thurs., June 6 - Around the World in 80 Minutes

Fri., June 7 - Fairbanks' Screen Character
Sat., June 8 - Manhattan Madness and Wild and Woolly
Sun., June 9 - When the Clouds Roll By and The Nut
Mon., June 10 - The Mark of Zorro
Tues., June 11 - The Three Musketeers
Wed., June 12 - The Thief of Bagdad
Thurs., June 13 - The Black Pirate
Fri., June 14 - Around the World in 80 Minutes

Sat., June 15 - Fairbanks' Screen Character
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Tues., June 18 - The Mark of Zorro
Wed., June 19 - The Three Musketeers
Thurs., June 20 - The Thief of Bagdad
Fri., June 21 - The Black Pirate
Sat., June 22 - Around the World in 80 Minutes

Sun., June 23 - Fairbanks' Screen Character
Mon., June 24 - Manhattan Madness and Wild and Woolly
Tues., June 25 - When the Clouds Roll By and The Nut
Wed., June 26 - The Mark of Zorro
Thurs., June 27 - The Three Musketeers
Fri., June 28 - The Thief of Bagdad
Sat., June 29 - The Black Pirate
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