

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
September 1986

PRESS SCREENING ANNOUNCEMENT

KLIMOV, MKRTCHIAN, EGAMBERDIEVA TO ATTEND OPENING OF FILMS FROM SOVIET REPUBLICS AT MoMA

Ranging from black comedy to historical tragedy, seventeen films from all fifteen Soviet republics will be presented at The Museum of Modern Art beginning on Friday, October 10. Shot in regional languages in the studios of the individual republics, the films reflect the broad ethnic and cultural diversity of the Soviet Union. Three dignitaries from the Soviet film world, directors Elem Klimov and Albert Mkrtchian and actress Dilorom Egamberdieva, will be in New York for the opening of A SALUTE TO THE SOVIET REPUBLICS.

Mr. Klimov, the recently-elected president of the Soviet Filmmakers Union, will introduce Come and See/Idi i Smotri (1985) on Friday, October 10, at 6:00 p.m. At 2:30 p.m. Mr. Mkrtchian will present his Armenian feature Tango of Our Childhood/Tango Nashego Detstva (1985). Mr. Klimov will introduce Farewell/Proschanie (1982) on Saturday, October 11, at 2:00 p.m. At 5:00 p.m. Ms. Egamberdieva will appear with Melis Abzalov's The Revolt of the Daughters-in-Law/Bunt Nevestok (1985), the feature from Uzbekistan in which she costars.

Come and See, an antiwar elegy based on the testimonies of survivors of Nazi antipartisan units, is adapted from the works of the Byelorussian writer Ales Adamovich. A film about a woman who finds strength after her husband leaves her, Tango of Our Childhood blends comic and tragic situations in a small Armenian town during the early postwar period. The Revolt of the Daughters-in-Law is a

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humorous look at contemporary life in Uzbekistan, where several generations still live together.

Recent works by established directors included in the exhibition are Sergei Paradjanov's The Legend of Suram Fortress/Legenda o Suramskoy Kreposki (1985), a surreal tribute to the fabled warriors of Georgia codirected with Dodo Abashidze, and Georgian director Eldar Shengelaya's anti-bureaucratic black comedy Blue Mountains/Golubye Gory (1984). Mr. Paradjanov is best known in this country for Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors (1964) and Sayat Nova/The Color of Pomegranates (1969).

Among the works by directors new to American audiences are Tolomush Okeev's Descendant of the Snow Leopard/Potomok Belogo Barza (1984), a poetic folk epic recreating the ancient rites of Kirghizia; Vladimir Popkov's Ukrainian feature The Unmarked Load (1985), an adventure tale of drug smuggling in a port city; and Alexei German's Trial on the Road, or Checkpoint/Proverka na Dorogakh (1985), a film from the republic of Russia about the conflict between partisans and a traitor, set in 1942. A complete schedule of films in the exhibition, which runs through November 4, is enclosed.

A SALUTE TO THE SOVIET REPUBLICS has been organized at The Museum of Modern Art by Jytte Jensen, curatorial assistant in the Museum's Department of Film, in collaboration with the International Film Exchange Ltd., New York, a Heritage Entertainment Company; Sovexportfilm, Moscow; and Adrienne Mancina, curator in the Museum's Department of Film.

Following the opening at The Museum of Modern Art, the exhibition will be seen at several other American institutions. The Soviet delegation will also attend the openings at The Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.; the Pacific Film Archive at the University Art Museum, Berkeley; and the UCLA Film, Television, and Radio Archives, Los Angeles. In addition, A SALUTE TO THE SOVIET REPUBLICS

The Museum of Modern Art
will be seen in 1987 at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and The Art Institute of Chicago.

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Press screenings will be held in the Museum's Warner Screening Room, fifth floor, at 2:30 p.m., beginning Thursday, October 2. The schedule for the press screenings is as follows:

Thursday, October 2, 2:30 p.m.: Blue Mountains/Golubye Gory (1984-Georgia). Directed by Eldar Shengelaya. In Georgian, English subtitles. 97 min.

Friday, October 3, 2:30 p.m.: Come and See/Idi i Smotri (1985-Byelorussia). Directed by Elem Klimov. In Russian, English subtitles. 142 min.

Monday, October 6, 2:30 p.m.: Tango of Our Childhood/Tango Nashego Detstva (1985-Armenia). Directed by Albert Mkrtchian. In Armenian, English subtitles. 91 min.

Tuesday, October 7, 2:30 p.m.: The Legend of Suram Fortress/Legenda o Suramskoy Kreposki ((1985-Georgia). Directed by Sergei Paradjanov and Dodo Abashidze. In Georgian, English subtitles. 89 min.

Wednesday, October 8, 2:30 p.m.: Trial on the Road/Checkpoint/Proverka na Korogakh (1985-Russia). Directed by Alexei German. In Russian, English subtitles. 99 min.

NOTE: It is necessary to respond in advance for each of the press screenings at 212/708-9750 or 212/708-9752.

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For further press information and photographic materials, contact Howard Feinstein, film press representative, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9752.