

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
September 1988

WESLEYAN CINEMA ARCHIVES AND THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART HONOR CLINT EASTWOOD ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CLINT EASTWOOD CINEMA COLLECTIONS

The Wesleyan University Cinema Archives and The Museum of Modern Art will honor Clint Eastwood on Wednesday evening, September 14, at a private, black-tie dinner at the Museum. The occasion celebrates the establishment of the Clint Eastwood Cinema Collections.

The Museum will hold original prints of Eastwood's films. Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, will preserve scripts, production materials, memorabilia, and all other papers relating to Eastwood's career as actor, director, and producer.

Jeanine Basinger, curator of the Wesleyan Cinema Archives and Corwin-Fuller Professor of Film Studies at the University, said, "Wesleyan has been showing Clint Eastwood's films in the classroom since 1971. We are honored to place his papers in our Archive alongside those of film artists such as Frank Capra, Elia Kazan, Ingrid Bergman, and Raoul Walsh. Clint Eastwood belongs in their company."

Mary Lea Bandy, director of the Museum's Department of Film, said: "Our institution has long recognized Clint Eastwood's unique contribution to the cinema. We are delighted that he has consented to establish the collections of his films at the Museum and his papers at Wesleyan University. Our collection will reach from his first directed feature, Play Misty for Me, to Bird, to films in which he played a starring role. It will include future works he produces and directs."

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At ceremonies preceding the dinner, Donald B. Marron, president of the Museum, and Colin G. Campbell, former president of Wesleyan and current president of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, will pay tribute to Mr. Eastwood, who will address the gathering in response.

After the ceremonies, Bird, a new film produced and directed by Eastwood, will be screened. This drama about the legendary jazz musician, Charlie (Yardbird) Parker, was hailed at the 1988 Cannes Film Festival and will be included in the New York Film Festival this fall. The film stars Forrest Whitaker and Diane Venora, who also will be present.

Special guests at the event will include Steven J. Ross, chairman of Warner Communications Inc.; Terry Semel, president of Warner Bros., distributors of Eastwood's films; and trustees of The Museum of Modern Art and Wesleyan University.

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For further information, contact Jeanne Collins or Sarah Eaton, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.