

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
May 1989

FUSION

June 9 - 15, 1989

Jazz, rock, and experimental music are some of the musical forms to be incorporated into motion pictures. FUSION, a program of four feature and ten short films at The Museum of Modern Art, illustrates the variety of film genres in which these artists have worked. The works in the program have been drawn from the Museum's archive and Circulating Film collections. Organized by Jon Gartenberg, assistant curator, Department of Film, FUSION opens on June 9 and continues through June 15, 1989.

Throughout the twentieth century, the art of synthesizing music and image has been a technical and creative challenge to well-known international composers. Composers and musicians and feature, independent, and avant-garde filmmakers have frequently collaborated to integrate musical compositions with visual imagery.

Among the films to be presented are Mark Sandrich's Top Hat (1935), with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers and music and lyrics by Irving Berlin; Otto Preminger's Anatomy of a Murder (1959), a Hollywood drama with an improvised score by Duke Ellington; and D.A. Pennebaker's Monterey Pop (1968) and Martin Scorsese's The Last Waltz (1978), rock documentaries of the sixties and seventies. Also included are Ralph Steiner and Willard Van Dyke's The City (1939) and Pare Lorentz's The River (1937), social documentary films of the thirties with classic scores by Aaron Copland and Virgil Thomson respectively.

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For further information or film stills, contact Sarah Eaton, film press representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.