

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
September 1989

FALL ANIMATION PROGRAMS AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

THE BARON OF MAGIC: KAREL ZEMAN September 17, 18

In memory of the veteran Czech animation artist Karel Zeman, who died earlier this year, the Museum presents a two-day program of his animated films. Zeman was an inexhaustible experimenter, fusing technique and form to create a fantastical new world of animation. He created his "innocent inventions" with infinite patience rather than large budgets. His ingenuous, and always ingenious, fantasies make him a true successor of the French pioneer Georges Melies.

The Christmas Dream (1946) was Zeman's first animated puppet film, but it was in An Invention for Destruction (1958) that he first gave fantasy full reign in a combination of live action and animation, incorporating wood block engravings that had been used to illustrate the books of Jules Verne. Zeman's marvelously imaginative Baron Munchhausen (1961) uses special effects, tricks, and period illustrations to create a fantastic world. The program was organized by Adrienne Mancina, curator, and Jytte Jensen, curatorial assistant, Department of Film, with the generous cooperation of the International Department of Czechoslovak Film and ASIFA East.

GEMS OF ANIMATION FROM THE CINEMATHEQUE QUEBECOISE: 25 YEARS! October 9

The only cinematheque in the world specializing in animation, the Cinematheque Quebecoise's many activities include the preservation, distribution, and promotion of works of animation art. The program, celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary, reflects the Cinematheques' holdings of various filmmakers, countries, periods, styles, and techniques. The works were selected by Louise Beaudet, curator of animation, Cinematheque Quebecoise, Montreal.

BEST OF ANNECY '89 October 27 - 29

Three programs of new films representing the cutting edge of animation have been selected from more than two hundred films screened at this year's international Festival of Animation in Annecy, France. This exhibition was organized by Louise Beaudet and Adrienne Mancina and is made possible by the support of the Festival of Annecy, with the generous cooperation of Terry Thoren, President of Expanded Entertainment, and the filmmakers and producers of the films included.

CALARTS: 20 YEARS OF ANIMATION
October 31

This retrospective celebrates twenty years of motion graphics from the California Institute of the Arts. These animated films are noted for a high standard of craftsmanship and diversity in content and style. The program was organized by Jules Engel, Director, Eperimental Animation, California Institute of the Arts, who will introduce both screenings.

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