

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
November 1991

AN EVENING OF YIDDISH CULTURE IS PRESENTED AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Celebrating Yiddish, an evening of music, poetry, performance, and film excerpts is presented at The Museum of Modern Art on Monday, December 9, 1991, at 8:00 p.m. The program is held in conjunction with the film exhibition YIDDISH FILM BETWEEN TWO WORLDS.

Celebrating Yiddish features readings in Yiddish and English by the actors Eli Wallach, Joseph Wiseman, and Lou Jacobi. David Opatoshu talks about the legacy of Yiddish in America; Rosalie Gerut performs songs from her musical *Songs of Paradise*; and playwright Herb Gardner (*I'm Not Rappaport*) reads from his new play. Irving Howe discusses Yiddish culture in the thirties and Bel Kaufman talks about her grandfather, author Sholem Aleichem. Pearl Lang and Joseph Wiseman read from the work of poet Itzik Manger. Actress Cara Gaffen and concert pianist Hersch Felder are also featured.

Celebrating Yiddish was organized by the Museum's Departments of Education and Film and by Moshe Waldoks for The National Center for Jewish Film at Brandeis University.

Tickets for the program, which is held in the Museum's Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1, are \$8 (members \$7, students \$5). For further information, call 212-708-9781.

YIDDISH FILM BETWEEN TWO WORLDS, on view through January 14, 1992, is the first major retrospective of Yiddish films made in the United States and

- more -

Europe from the 1920s to the 1980s. Depicting the concerns and values of Yiddish culture, the exhibition includes melodramas, farces, tragedies, musical comedies, and documentaries.

* * *

No. 85

For further information on either the December 9 evening or the Yiddish film exhibition, contact Barbara Marshall, Film Press Representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9752.