

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
September 1993

FALL FILM AND VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS

The Museum of Modern Art's fall season features programs ranging from a selection of films by master filmmaker Max Ophüls to a program of Clint Eastwood films recently donated to the archive, as well as a premiere and retrospective of work by video artist Steve Fagin.

JULIE HARRIS

September 17 - 21, 1993

On the occasion of Julie Harris's return to the New York stage in Timothy Mason's *The Fiery Furnace*, the Museum presents five of her feature films. In addition to her brilliant theatrical career, Ms. Harris has a distinguished parallel career in the movies. The films in the series are *The Member of the Wedding* (1952, Fred Zinnemann), *I Am a Camera* (1955, Henry Cornelius), *East of Eden* (1955, Elia Kazan), *The Haunting* (1963, Robert Wise), and *The Hiding Place* (1975, James F. Collier), which Ms. Harris introduces on Monday, September 20, at 6:00 p.m. Organized by Charles Silver, supervisor, Film Study Center, with the assistance of Julie Scherer.

MAX OPHÜLS: FROM THE ARCHIVES

September 23 - October 3, 1993

This selection presents ten films by the German-born filmmaker Max Ophüls, one of cinema's most cosmopolitan and visually elegant directors. Highlights include an original release version of *Lola Montès* (1955) in a pristine CinemaScope print, and Ophüls's first big success, *Liebelei* (1932). Also featured are *La Signora di Tutti* (1934), *The Exile* (1947), *Letter from an Unknown Woman* (1948), *Caught* (1949), *The Reckless Moment* (1949), *La Ronde* (1950), *Le Plaisir* (1952), and *The Earrings of Madame de...* (1953). Organized by Laurence Kardish, curator, Department of Film.

MISERICORDS: HIDDEN MIRRORS OF MEDIEVAL LIFE

October 1 - 3, 1993

The five videotapes in this program consist of hundreds of photographs of choir-stall carvings, manuscript illuminations, altarpieces, and sixteenth-century engravings that reveal the life styles and beliefs of medieval Europe. The narration relates the carvings to iconography, literature, language,

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ethical concepts and practices, and the roles of women. Organized by William Sloan, librarian, Circulating Film and Video Library.

TALES OF LOVE: FROM THE ARCHIVES

October 3 - 18, 1993

An international selection of sound cinema's celebrated love stories, including *Annie Hall* (1977, Woody Allen), *Camille* (1936, George Cukor), *The Devil is a Woman* (1935, Josef von Sternberg), *I Know Where I'm Going* (1945, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger), and *Jules et Jim* (1962, François Truffaut). Organized by Laurence Kardish.

PERFORMERS, COMPOSERS, AND SONGS: MUSICAL SHORTS FROM THE ARCHIVE

October 8 - 10, 1993

The musical short-subject is one of the least known and richest bodies of film produced by the American film industry after the coming of sound. Made largely on the East Coast, close to the resources of the music business, Broadway, and Harlem, these shorts feature an extraordinary array of musical talent. Presented in honor of the 100th anniversaries of both Broadway and cinema, these three programs feature performances by Fanny Brice, Bessie Smith, Helen Morgan, Ethel Waters, Carmen Miranda, Duke Ellington, and Fats Waller. Other highlights include a 1913 opera short and a 1965 rock music compilation featuring the Beatles, the Animals, and assorted bands from the "British Invasion" period. Organized by Ron Magliozzi, assistant supervisor, Film Study Center.

STEVE FAGIN RETROSPECTIVE

October 8 - 11, 1993

This four-day retrospective begins with the premiere of Steve Fagin's new video, *Zero Degrees Latitude* (1993), on Friday, October 8, at 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. Employing a documentary form, the tape examines the evangelization of Latin America through the uses of missionary work and anthropology. The retrospective comprises *Virtual Play: The Double Direct Monkey Wrench in Black's Machinery* (1984), *The Amazing Voyage of Gustave Flaubert and Raymond Roussel* (1986), and *The Machine That Killed Bad People* (1990). Organized by Barbara London, associate curator, Video, Department of Film.

BRITISH AWARD-WINNING COMMERCIALS--BABA 1993

October 15 - 25, 1993

The tenth annual exhibition of British commercials made for television and cinema is presented in a seventy-five minute program. The commercials are distinguished by their technical skill and clever understatement. The messages, which may be sponsored by private industry, public agencies, or charitable organizations, are both original and unsentimental in approach.

Nearly 100 commercials, ranging in length from several seconds to two minutes, were selected to receive awards from all the British advertisements made in 1992 for film and television. This year's presentation is dedicated to Tony Solomon, BABA's founder, who died this year. Organized by Laurence Kardish.

VIDEO PREMIERE: 'VERONIKA SOUL'S GHOST STORY

October 22, 1993, 6:30 p.m.

Ghost Story (1993) is an eclectic tale revolving around the lives of Chinese immigrants as told through the voices of their ghosts. The video takes place in a single room in New York's Chinatown, witness to the lives of several families who resided in the space for the past sixty years. The artist discusses her video and her collaboration with the Chinese-American community. *Ghost Story* will be shown again with *Soul's Unknown Soldiers* (1990), on October 23, at 5:00 p.m. Organized by Barbara London.

NEW ACQUISITIONS: TEN YEARS OF CLINT EASTWOOD FILMS

October 28 - November 2, 1993

This selection of six Clint Eastwood films, recently donated to the Museum by Warner Bros., represents his work of the past decade as actor, director, and producer. The films include *Tightrope* (1984), *Bird* (1988), *White Hunter, Black Heart* (1990), and *Unforgiven* (1993). The Museum began collecting Eastwood's films in the 1970s with the first film he directed, *Play Misty for Me* (1971). The collection now includes more than fifteen films. Organized by Mary Lea Bandy, chief curator, Department of Film.

JOHN F. KENNEDY: DOCUMENTARIES BY ROBERT DREW

November 21 - 23, 1993

On the 30th anniversary of the death of President John F. Kennedy, the Department of Film presents a single program of three *cinéma vérité* documentaries made by Robert Drew. The program comprises *Primary* (1960), about Kennedy's candidacy; *Crisis: Behind a Presidential Commitment* (1963), on his time in office; and *Faces of November* (1964), on the President's funeral. Organized by Laurence Kardish.

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For further information or film stills, contact Barbara Marshall, film press representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9752.