

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
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WHAT'S HAPPENING? FALL SEASON BEGINS OCTOBER 7, 1993

WHAT'S HAPPENING?, The Museum of Modern Art's ongoing series of independently made films and videos on social and political issues, continues with its fall 1993 season. The schedule of films, shown on Thursdays at 3:00 and 6:00 p.m., is as follows:

OCTOBER 7

Johann Feindt and Tamara Trampe
The Black Box (1992)

This film is a portrait of Dr. Jochen Girke, a former lieutenant colonel in the Stasi, East Germany's secret police, and a professor of operative psychology at the Stasi College. To penetrate Girke's closed world the filmmakers interview Girke and people who knew him.

OCTOBER 14

Les Blank, Meleanna Meyer, and Chris Simon
Puamana (1991)

Puamana celebrates the life of Irmgard Farden Aluli, one of Hawaii's best-loved songwriters. In the last fifty-five years, she has written more than 300 songs, which reflect the changing times of Hawaii. The music combines American pop styles with lyrics that carry traditional Hawaiian themes, such as love of the land, the people, and the spirit of the islands.

Les Blank and Maureen Gosling
Yum, Yum, Yum! (1991)

This exploration of the cooking and culture of southern Louisiana focuses on Marc Savoy as he prepares his one-pot Cajun gumbos and *sauce piquantes* and offers commentaries on Cajun cooking.

Les Blank
Marc and Ann (1992)

Marc and Ann is a short film about a Cajun couple. Marc Savoy is a musician, master accordion-builder, and storyteller. Ann Savoy is the author of *Cajun Music: A Reflection of a People* and has appeared in other Les Blank films.

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OCTOBER 21

Pankaj Butalia

Moksha (1992)

In many parts of Hindu society in India, a woman's life changes drastically after her husband's death, when she becomes a marginal figure in society. Humiliated and unable to face the consequences of the tragedy, the women seek religious salvation. *Moksha* was shot in Vrindavan, where women who are Krishna followers have flocked since the nineteenth century.

OCTOBER 28

Jana Ševčíková

Piemule (1983 - 1992)

In a remote part of Romania lives a community of Czech descendants -- known in Romanian as *piemule* -- whose ancestors left Czechoslovakia in 1822. They are still very much attached to their roots and dream of returning home one day. In their despair and bitterness they feel their forced exile is a punishment.

Jana Ševčíková

Jakub (1992)

This film concerns the Ruthenian minority from the Transcarpathian mountains who were settled on the border of Germany and Czechoslovakia by the Communist government after World War II. Their story is told through the biography of a man named Jakub, culled from official written information and the memories of his contemporaries.

NOVEMBER 4

Joanna Helander and Bo Persson

Eighth Day Theatre (1992)

From 1986 to the present, the filmmakers followed a legendary theater company from its native Poland to exile in Western Europe during the continent's recent political and social upheavals. Filmed in Poland, Sweden, Italy, France, Spain, Switzerland, and Germany, *Eighth Day Theatre* offers a unique look into the inner workings of a traveling political theater group.

NOVEMBER 11

Doris Chase

The Chelsea (1993)

The Chelsea is a video journal of the famed hotel in New York that has been the home to a wide variety of artists, including Sara Bernhardt, Eugene O'Neill, Willem de Kooning, Jimi Hendrix, Jasper Johns, Robert Flaherty, Sid Vicious and Nancy Spungen, and Virgil Thomson.

NOVEMBER 18

Terese Svoboda and Steve Bull

Margaret Sanger: A Public Nuisance (1992)

This film examines how Margaret Sanger changed the public's perception of birth control from a pornographic to a health issue. The film highlights Sanger's pioneering use of the media and popular culture to advance her cause.

Christine Fugate

The Southern Sex (1992)

The Southern Sex takes a close look at the reality behind the stereotypes and myths of the southern belle and coal-miner's daughter. Twelve Kentucky women share their intimate thoughts on love, marriage, and the pursuit of happiness.

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