

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

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No. 64  
For Release  
Monday,  
May 23, 1960

Ashes and the Diamond (Popiol I Diament), a 1958 Polish film directed by Andrzej Wajda, will be shown to the New York public for the first time at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Thursday, May 26, at 8:30 p.m. Mr. Romuald Spasowski, Polish Ambassador to the United States, will introduce the film. At a reception in the Museum Garden following the premiere, Polish refreshments will be served. Tickets, available at the Museum, are \$2 for Museum members and \$3 for non-members.

Winner of the International Film Critics Prize, Venice, 1959, and chosen best foreign film of the year (1959) by Britain's Film Critics Guild, Ashes and the Diamond is a story of a political assassin brought sharply to disenchantment with his cause. Politics is the backdrop, the atmosphere of the film; but the subject is human survival. The restlessness and violence of the plot authentically portray a changing Poland immediately after the war.

Ashes and the Diamond is one of 10 Post War Polish Films presented by the Museum, the others being shown at the Museum daily at 3 and 5:30. The series was arranged in cooperation with the Polish Embassy to the United States and Film Polski to introduce films greatly admired in Europe but little known in this country.

Jerzy Michalowski, Poland's Permanent Delegate to the United Nations, Marian Dabrosielski, Counselor of the Polish Embassy, and Tadeusz Grzybowski, Polish Commercial Counselor to the United States, will be present at the premiere.

Afternoon showings of the series will continue May 23 with Young Chopin, 1952, direction and scenario by Aleksander Ford; May 24-26, Five From Barska Street, 1953, directed by Aleksander Ford; May 27 - 29, Partings, 1958, directed by Wojciech Has; May 30 - June 1, Answer To Violence, 1958, directed by Jerzy Passendorfer; June 2 -4, Kanal, 1956, directed by Andrzej Wajda; June 5 - 7, The Last Day of Summer, 1958, directed by Tadeusz Konwicki and Jan Laskowski; June 8 - 10, Eroica, 1957, directed by Andrzej Munk; and June 11, Eve Wants To Sleep, 1957, directed by Tadeusz Chmielewski.

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available

Film stills and further information from Herbert Bronstein, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, N. Y. C. CI 5-8900.