

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

No. 77
For Release
Tuesday,
June 21, 1960

G. W. Pabst's The Three Penny Opera (Die Dreigroschenoper) (1931), in a newly reconstructed version, will be previewed this evening (June 21) for an invited audience at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street. Guests from the theatrical, literary and entertainment worlds will include Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Miller, Helen Hayes, Fannie Hurst, Lillian Hellman, Mrs. Vladimir Horowitz, Billy Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hecht, Elmer Rice, S. J. Perelman, William Inge, Lee Strasburg, Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Kintner, Carl Van Vechten, Valentine Sherry, Len Lye, Muriel Rukeyser, and others.

Based on the play by Bertolt Brecht with music by Kurt Weill, The Three Penny Opera stars Lotte Lenya as Jenny, Rudolph Forster as "Mack the Knife," Carola Neher as Polly, and Ernst Busch as the street singer. The original negative of the German film and all prints in Germany were destroyed by the Third Reich after Hitler's seizure of power. With the assistance of the Museum's Film Library, Thomas J. Brandon assembled the current version after a ten-year search in many countries. The restoration, constructed from partial prints and segments of sound track, has been re-recorded. English subtitles are by Herman G. Weinberg.

The film will be presented in a New York theater in July.

Further information available from Herbert Bronstein, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York. CI 5-8900.