

# The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The second special screening of "Passages From James Joyce's 'Finnegans Wake,'" a film based on his masterwork, for Contributing Members of The Museum of Modern Art will be held Tuesday evening, March 30 at 8:30 p.m. in the Museum Auditorium. The first screening was held March 23. Both showings, offered as a special privilege to members in that category, were heavily oversubscribed.

"Finnegans Wake," produced and directed by Mary Ellen Bute has been made available to the Museum through the generosity of Expanding Cinema and the Film Advisory Committee of the James Joyce Society, which is headed by Padraic Colum, President and Frances Steloff, Treasurer. It is based on a play by Mary Manning.

"Finnegans Wake" was filmed in Dublin and in New York City. Associate Producer and Director of Photography was Ted Nemeth. Music was composed and conducted by Elliot Kaplan. Martin J. Kelly, playing Finnegan, heads the cast.

This is the first feature ever adapted from Joyce's work. It is also the initial feature production of Mary Ellen Bute, formerly of Houston, Texas. A short film by Miss Bute, "The Boy Who Saw Through" won first prize for short features at the Brussels World's Fair.

Among the Joyce experts whose support Miss Bute has received in "Finnegans Wake" are Padraic Colum, Mme. Maria Jolas, William York Tindall, Joyce scholar David Haymen at the University of Texas and Frances Steloff of the Gotham Book Mart, who is secretary of the James Joyce Society and to whom the film is dedicated.

"Finnegans Wake" is a particularly interesting and sensitive film, visualizing an inward, psychological experience for which some people feel Joyce invented a special language. Miss Bute has met this challenge by having the camera go beyond the outward experience, sometimes using surrealist devices but always capturing the beauty of Dublin.

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Film stills and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director,  
Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street,  
New York, N. Y. 10019, Circle 5-8900.