

The Museum of Modern Art

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

No. 22
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 23, 1967

Two films recently acquired for the film archive of The Museum of Modern Art will be screened at the Museum the first week in March: THE SOUTHERNER (1945) by Jean Renoir will be shown on March 2 and 5; ZAZA (1939) by George Cukor on March 3 and 4.

THE SOUTHERNER is Jean Renoir's well-known story of the tribulations of a family of tenant farmers. Critic James Agee says, "Though its people are exceedingly poor, this is not a political or social 'exposure' of the tenant system, nor does it pay any attention to class or racial friction. It tries simply to be a poetic, realistic chronicle of a farm year's hope, work, need, anxiety, pride, love, disaster and reward -- a chronicle chiefly of soil, seasons, and weather..."

ZAZA is based on a famous play originally produced by David Belasco starring Mrs. Leslie Carter. The play was first filmed in 1915 with Pauline Fredericks and again in 1923 with Gloria Swanson. Cukor's version, which is the third remake of the play, stars Claudette Colbert. Zaza is a mischievous and flirtatious music-hall soubrette, whose stage partner, Cascart, becomes distressed when she decides to quit their act for the wealthy playboy Dufresne. But eventually she learns that her lover is already married and returns to the stage to become the toast of Paris.

Program:

- Thurs. Mar. 2 (2, 5:30 & 8) and Sun. Mar. 5 (2 and 5:30) THE SOUTHERNER (1945). Directed by Jean Renoir. Produced by Loew-Hakim. Based on novel by George Sessions Perry. Photographed by Lucien Andriot. Edited by Gregg Tallas. With Zachary Scott, Betty Field, Beulah Bondi, Bunny Sunshine, Jay Gilpin, Percy Kilbride, Blanche Yurka, J. Carroll Nash and Norman Lloyd. 100 min.
- Fri. Mar. 3 (2 and 5:30) and Sat. Mar. 4 (11:30, 3, 5:30) ZAZA (1939). Directed by George Cukor. Produced by Albert Lewin. Screenplay by Zoe Akins from a play by Pierre Berton and Charles Simon. Songs by Frank Loesser and Frederick Hollander. Photography by Charles Lang, Jr. Edited by Edward Dmytryk. Production consultant: Alla Nazimova. With Claudette Colbert, Herbert Marshall, Bert Lahr, Helen Westley, Constance Collier and Genevieve Tobin. 83 min.

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