

The Museum of Modern Art

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

No. 23

Friday, February 24, 1967
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lee Strasberg, Artistic Director of The Actors Studio, will give an illustrated lecture on STYLES OF ACTING on Wednesday, March 8, at 8:30 p.m., in The Museum of Modern Art Auditorium. Mr. Strasberg will discuss various styles of famous actors citing excerpts from early film productions preserved in the Museum's Archive.

Mr. Strasberg's lecture is the first public use of the Museum's Archive films for theatrical reference, although the material is frequently consulted in the Museum's private viewing rooms by playwrights, directors and drama students for adaptations and re-makes of theatrical productions. These films are available for study to students and scholars and are circulated to educational institutions for classroom instruction.

The program will include excerpts from Madame Sans-Gêne (1911), with Gabrielle Rejane; La Dame Aux Camélias (1912), with Sarah Bernhardt; Vanity Fair (1915), with Minnie Maddern Fiske; Genere (1916), with Eleanora Duse; and Hamlet (1933), with John Barrymore. The latter consists of two test shots for a planned but never realised production of John Barrymore's stage role in Hamlet. The other four excerpts are from a program of "Great Actresses of the Past" which is circulated by the Museum's Department of Film.

In 1908, France began producing a series of "Films d'Art" with actors from the Comédie Française, seeking in vain to elevate the motion picture, but condemning it to mirror the stage play. These films, which are all that remain for study of the great actors, retain a partial record of the physical appearance, stature, gait and gestures of the actors and furnish instructive glimpses of extinct theatrical styles and traditions.

Tickets for Lee Strasberg's lecture are available at the Museum's Information Desk: \$1.25 to Museum members and students; \$1.75 to non-members.

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.