

# The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

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## MUSEUM INAUGURATES NEW FILM HISTORY SERIES

The Department of Film of The Museum of Modern Art is launching a year-and-a-half History of Film Series, comprised of 75 programs. The cycle, starting February 6, 1971 and continuing through July 15, 1972, will take place every Saturday morning at 11:30 a.m. The initial program includes Edison Studio's 1895 "Chinese Laundry" and the final one will feature Stanley Kubrick's 1964 film "Dr. Strangelove." Over 200 films from seven decades are included. The shortest is Len Lye's one-minute "Rhythm," and the longest is Griffith's "Intolerance," which takes over three hours.

"This series differs from earlier ones," says Donald Richie, Curator of Film, "because we know more about the history of film than ever before. Every year pictures are being rediscovered, and seen by more and more people. Consequently, history has to be readjusted. Some of the classics aren't classic any more."

One of the changes in emphasis which the new series will reflect is "the importance of the documentary, of the early Scandinavian film, and of what used to be called the avant-garde--all of which contributed more to what film has become than is generally acknowledged. The influence of Stiller and Sjoberg continues to grow, Bunuel's razor-sliced eye remains an icon for contemporary filmmaking, and both Dziga-Vertov and Robert Flaherty are among the true parents of modern cinema."

Mr. Richie points out that "The Joyless Street" (1925) of Pabst is included, as well as Cooper and Schodsak's "Grass," made in the same year. "Dr. Caligari" is present on a double-bill with "Die Puppe," by Ernst Lubitsch. Both films were made in 1919.

"Mother" is conspicuous by its absence, according to Mr. Richie. "This is not a definitive history. For one thing, though we know more than we did, we do not know as much as we will ten years from now."

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Additional information available from Lillian Gerard, Film Coordinator, and Mark Segal, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, New York 10019. Tel: (212) 956-7296.