

The Museum of Modern Art

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NO. 18
FOR RELEASE:
MARCH 18, 1975

DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FILM APPOINTED AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Edward (Ted) S. Perry has been appointed Director of the Department of Film at The Museum of Modern Art, Richard E. Oldenburg, Director of the Museum, announced today. Mr. Perry, Professor and Chairman of the Department of Cinema Studies, School of the Arts/Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at New York University since 1971, succeeds Willard Van Dyke who retired from the position in January 1974.

Until Mr. Perry assumes his new position July 1, the Associate Director of the Film Department, Margareta Akermark, will remain Acting Director, a responsibility she was asked to undertake until a new Director was appointed after Mr. Van Dyke's retirement. When Mr. Perry joins the Museum Ms. Akermark will continue as Associate Director, a post to which she was appointed in 1965.

Mr. Oldenburg expressed the pleasure of the Board and the Staff over the new appointment. "Mr. Perry's distinguished background as a film historian, writer, lecturer and educator, his interest in the relationship between film and other arts, and his involvement with television and multi-media make him particularly well qualified for this important post in the Museum.

"At the same time, I want to express deep gratitude to Margareta Akermark who, with efficiency and grace, has been administering the Film Department as Acting Director for more than a year. Her generous acceptance of additional responsibilities beyond the demanding duties of Associate Director, combined with her expertise and long experience at the Museum, have been invaluable."

Mr. Perry, author and teacher in the field of cinema studies has also written, directed and produced television network documentaries and multi-media presentations. A 1960 graduate of Baylor University in Texas, he received his

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MA and PhD from the University of Iowa in 1966 and 1968 respectively. Mr. Perry is a member of The Museum of Modern Art's Committee on Film and is also a member of the Film, TV, Media Panel of the New York State Council on the Arts, and of the Advisory Council of the Media Educators Association.

At New York University Mr. Perry extended the scope of the Department of Cinema Studies, doubling the number of graduate students and opening the program to undergraduates. He also established a fully equipped study center and library. He has also been a Visiting Lecturer at the State University of New York at Purchase. Earlier he had been a member of the faculties of the University of Texas and the University of Iowa.

Mr. Perry has written for film journals and anthologies, including Quarterly Journal of Speech, Perspectives on the Study of Film, Speech Monograph, Educational Theatre Journal and Cinema Journal. He is the author (with Richard Dyer McCann) of The New Film Index, an annotated bibliography of articles on the cinema (1930 - 1970), just published by E. P. Dutton and of Fellini's 8 1/2 which will be published by the Indiana University Press later this year. Mr. Perry is also Editor of Performing Arts Resources published by Theatre Library Association.

Mr. Perry and his wife, Miriam, and their four children live in New York City.

The Department of Film, established in 1935, six years after The Museum of Modern Art was founded, regularly circulates films to more than two thousand educational institutions around the country; maintains and continually expands a collection of films dating back to the turn of the century and including features, documentaries, animated and experimental films from all parts of the world; operates a Film Study Center for students, scholars and filmmakers, and presents to the general Museum public varied programs of film in daily screenings in the Museum auditorium.

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Among the programs being shown this spring at the Museum, for example, are the second part of a D. W. Griffith retrospective, new films from France, Cineprobe (devoted to the independent and/or experimental filmmaker), What's Happening? (consisting of social and political films), Shorts and Documentaries, Films for Children, and History of Film.

 Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of
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