

# The Museum of Modern Art

50th Anniversary



NO. 13  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb. 20, 1981

## 8 BY BLAKE EDWARDS AT MOMA

Eight films directed by Blake Edwards, a modern master of the comic film, will be presented at The Museum of Modern Art from March 5 through 15 in a retrospective program highlighting Edwards' distinguished career as a director, writer and producer. Edwards' first screen credit, as writer and actor (his debut as well as swan-song performance) appeared 33 years ago with "Panhandle" (1947). He began directing in 1955 with "Bring Your Smile Along" which he wrote (also writing "My Sister Eileen" the same year.) Since then, and up through the recent invigorating success of "10" Edwards has established a distinctive place in film comedy, as pointed out by film critic Myron Meisel:

"Blake Edwards parlayed deadpan farce and intricate gag construction into a profound comic metaphysic devoted to whatever possibilities remain for wit and romance in the postwar era. For Edwards, visual and verbal slapstick provide elaborate ways to meditate on his central issue: what civilized behavior is still tenable?"

Another reflection from film critic George Morris:

"Edwards' movies are slick and glossy, but their shiny surfaces reflect all too accurately the disposable values of contemporary life. The lush imagery has the look of fashion and advertising layouts, but real human beings have replaced the models and mannequins."

The delightful mix of popular entertainment and pithy commentary that characterises Edwards' work will be showcased with the following selections:

March 5 (2:30) GUNN (1967) Paramount Pictures. 94 min.

March 5 (6:00) BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S (1961) Paramount Pictures.  
115 min.

March 5 (8:30) "10" (1979) Orion/Warner Bros. 122 min.

March 6 (2:30) "10"

March 7 (2:30) BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S

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- March 7 (5:00) THE PARTY (1968) United Artists. 98 min.
- March 8 (2:30) THE PINK PANTHER (1963) United Artists. 113 min.
- March 9 (2:30) THE PARTY
- March 12 (2:30) THE PINK PANTHER
- March 12 (6:00) WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR, DADDY? (1966)  
United Artists. 115 min.
- March 12 (8:30) DARLING LILI (1970) Paramount Pictures. 136 min.
- March 13 (2:30) THE TAMARIND SEED (1974) Avco Embassy. 125 min.
- March 14 (2:30) THE TAMARIND SEED
- March 14 (5:00) WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR, DADDY?
- March 15 (2:30) DARLING LILI

The Department of Film would like to thank Avco Embassy, Lorimar Productions, Orion/Warner Bros., Paramount Pictures, and United Artists for their cooperation in presenting this Blake Edwards retrospective. We would also like to thank George Morris for his assistance and Myron Meisel for writing the program notes for this series.

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