

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART SCHEDULES NEW PROGRAM, "FILMS AND REALITY,"  
INCLUDING PROPAGANDA, MUSIC, ART, DANCE AND FACT FILMS  
FROM RUSSIA, GERMANY AND NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

On Memorial Day the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, will inaugurate a new motion picture series, FILMS AND REALITY. The series will open with A Concert on Celluloid, an eighty-minute program of short films documenting the virtuosity of such musical artists as Iturbi, Gorin and the Coolidge String Quartet. These are not the customary movie glimpses of musical performances but are an innovation in that they use motion pictures to bring to an audience not only a brilliant performance but at the same time close and detailed views of the technique by which the artist achieves his mastery of effect and instrument.

The Concert on Celluloid will be shown for a period of two weeks, twice daily and three times on Sunday. The other nine programs of the series--among them German propaganda films, a Soviet Russian film entitled Diary of a Nazi, and a film on the dance with Pavlova in some of her most memorable roles--will be shown for a period of one week each and will be repeated for a second week after all have been shown.

The new series has been assembled, arranged and edited under the supervision of Iris Barry, Curator of the Museum of Modern Art Film Library. In a program note for the series she writes:

"Within the past months, the film of fact has finally become so important as almost to have resumed the place and the promise that it held forty years ago.... We look this year to the screen to inform us of the progress of the nation's affairs, to report to us upon our desert victories and jungle fronts, to bring us news and more news in pictorial form and to show us in the most penetrating and convincing manner conceivable the thousand aspects of a world at war upon which we desire, for our own mental satisfaction, the fullest possible documentation....

"Almost all varieties of non-fiction films are represented in this new series of programs. A comparison of the various styles employed should be invaluable to practitioners and students of cinematography alike.... Some of this material may seem controversial: its showing may even be criticized in some quarters. The Museum of Modern Art, however, as evidenced by its many recent and forthcoming war-related exhibitions, has thought it important to present to its public the maximum documentation upon events and trends in the world of today as evidenced in or reflected by the living and popular arts."

(Complete film schedule will be mailed you next week.)