

# The Museum of Modern Art

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Willard Van Dyke, Director of the Department of Film of The Museum of Modern Art, will open a film exhibition, entitled THE PERSONAL FILM: Twenty years of short film in the United States, at the National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo on October 15. The five one-hour programs of experimental films, selected by The Museum of Modern Art's Department of Film, will be shown in rotation on a daily basis in connection with an exhibition of TWO DECADES OF AMERICAN PAINTING, prepared by the New York Museum under the auspices of its International Council.

The Museum of Modern Art's Department of Film, since its founding in 1935, has been concerned with the work of the independent filmmaker. "The exhibition is not only a testament to our firm belief in cinema," says Mr. Van Dyke, "but also a justification of the faith and efforts of the Department of Film of The Museum of Modern Art which was founded on the assumption that the film medium was a potential art form. Thus, the Department is especially happy to present this program.

"American film has had thus far a restless, uneven life but no period of its history has seen so many artists and intellectuals allied to the power of kinetic imagery as the present. It is perhaps this multiplicity as well as the diversity of minds inspired by cinema which characterizes the American film scene today."

Thirty-seven films have been selected for showing in Japan with the aim of capturing the variety and vitality of experimentation in the short-film medium during the past twenty years. Four films are dated prior to this time and are included because of their significant influence -- AN AMERICAN MARCH (1939) by Oskar Fischinger, and MESHES OF THE AFTERNOON (1943), AT LAND (1944), and A STUDY IN CHOREOGRAPHY FOR CINEMA (1945), all by Maya Deren. Among important films to be shown are BELLS OF ATLANTIS (1953) by Ian Hugo, A MOMENT IN LOVE (1957) by Shirley Clarke, TEXTURES OF DECAY (1957) by Robert Vickrey, N.Y., N.Y. (1957) by Francis Thompson, RHYTHM (1957) and FREE RADICALS (1958) by Len Lye, NINE VARIATIONS OF A DANCE THEME (1966) by Hilary Harris, and EVOLUTION (1955) and DEATH AND TRANSFIGURATION (1965) by James E. Davis.

(more)

List of films to be shown attached.

- AN AMERICAN MARCH (1939) by Oskar Fischinger
- MESHES OF THE AFTERNOON (1943) by Maya Deren
- AT LAND (1944) by Maya Deren
- A STUDY IN CHOREOGRAPHY FOR CAMERA (1945) by Maya Deren
- THE PRIVATE LIFE OF A CAT (1947) by Alexander Hammid
- SAUSALITO (c.1947) by Frank Stauffacher
- ON THE EDGE (1949) by Curtis Harrington
- BELLS OF ATLANTIS (1953) by Ian Hugo
- DAYBREAK EXPRESS (1953) by D. A. Pennebaker
- EVOLUTION (1955) by James E. Davis
- A MOMENT IN LOVE (1957) by Shirley Clarke
- TEXTURES OF DECAY (1957) by Robert Vickrey
- N.Y., N.Y. (1957) by Francis Thompson
- RHYTHM (1957) by Len Lye
- FREE RADICALS (1958) by Len Lye
- THE ROOM (1958-59) by Carmen D'Avino
- PRELUDE: DOG STAR MAN (1961) by Stan Brakhage
- A MOVIE (1961-62) by Bruce Conner
- CATALOG (1962) by John Whitney
- HORSE OVER TEAKETTLE (1962) by Robert Breer
- THANATOPSIS (1962) by Ed Emshwiller
- FOOTBALL AS IT IS PLAYED TODAY (1962) by Joseph Anderson
- MANIFESTO (1963) by Richard Preston
- SCORPIO RISING (1963) by Kenneth Anger
- ALLURES (1964) by Jordan Belson
- BREATHDEATH (1964) by Stan Vanderbeek
- O DEM WATERMELONS (1965) by Robert Nelson
- THE POP SHOW (1965) by Fred Mogubgub
- DEATH AND TRANSFIGURATION (1965) by James E. Davis
- VIVIAN (1965) by Bruce Conner
- DUO CONCERTANTES (c.1965) by Larry Jordan
- CASTRO STREET (1966) by Bruce Baillie
- RAY GUN VIRUS (1966) by Paul Sharits
- NINE VARIATIONS ON A DANCE THEME (1966) by Hilary Harris
- THE EMPTY HAND (1966) by Stephen Verona
- GALAXIE (1966) (excerpts) by Gregory J. Markopoulos
- EARLY ABSTRACTIONS by Harry Smith

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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, New York. 10019. Circle 5-8900.