

# The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release  
August 1986

SOME FILMS ABOUT THEATER  
September 23-30, 1986

## Schedule

Tuesday, September 23 at 2:30 p.m. (The Roy and Mada Tiltus Theater 11)

ROBERT BENEDETTI'S VICTORY OVER THE SUN LEADS OFF MoMA'S  
EXHIBITION SOME FILMS ABOUT THEATER SEPTEMBER 23

Tuesday, September 23 at 6:00 p.m. (The Roy and Mada Tiltus Theater 11)  
NICK DOOB'S SANFORD MEISNER: THE THEATER'S BEST KEPT SECRET

with students: Sydney Pollack, Jon Voight, Bob Fosse, Gwen Verdon, Joanne Whalley-Kilmer, Mary Steenburgen,

Victory over the Sun, Robert Benedetti's 1984 film version of the restaged 1913 Futurist performance in Russia, will open the series SOME FILMS ABOUT THEATER at The Museum of Modern Art on Tuesday, September 23, at 2:30 p.m. Nick Doob's Sanford Meisner: The Theater's Best Kept Secret (1984), in which celebrated actors discuss the great acting teacher, will be screened the same day at 6:00 p.m.

Rounding out the exhibition are two films from the Museum's Film Archive, the silent compilation film Great Actresses of the Past (1911-18), featuring Sarah Bernhardt, Eleanora Duse, Minnie Maddern Fiske, and Gabrielle Réjane, and Mario Camerini's 1931 Italian feature Figaro's Big Day, about a provincial production of a work by Rossini.

Victory over the Sun, which was performed on stage at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in 1984, reconstructs the "operatic" collaboration between the futurist painter Kazimir Malevich, the musician Mikhail Matiushin, and the writer Aleksei Kruchenykh in St. Petersburg. This seminal piece can be seen as a prototype of both sound-and-light shows and contemporary performance art.

Sanford Meisner: The Theater's Best Kept Secret is a portrait of Meisner the man and Meisner the instructor. Besides Sydney Pollack, who coproduced the film with Kent Paul, other Meisner students who are interviewed include Jon Voight, Robert Duvall, Gregory Peck, Gwen Verdon, and Frances Sternhagen.

A complete schedule of films in the exhibition is attached. SOME FILMS ABOUT THEATER has been organized by Laurence Kardish, curator, Department of Film.

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For further press information and photographic materials, contact Howard Feinstein, film press representative, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9752.

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SOME FILMS ABOUT THEATER

September 23-30, 1986

Schedule

- Tuesday, September 23 at 2:30 p.m. (The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 1):  
Victory over the Sun. 1984. Robert Benedetti. 55 min.
- Tuesday, September 23 at 6:00 p.m. (Titus 1): Sanford Meisner: The Theater's Best Kept Secret. 1985. Nick Doob. With Sanford Meisner and his students: Sydney Pollack, Jon Voight, Bob Fosse, Gwen Verdon, Joanne Woodward, Mary Steenburgen, Tony Randall, Mark Rydell, Peter Falk, Robert Duvall, Frances Sternhagen, Eli Wallach, Anne Jackson, Vivian Matalon, Suzanne Pleshette, David Mamet, Lee Grant, Gregory Peck. (Columbia Pictures). 60 min.
- Saturday, September 27 at 2:30 and 5:30 p.m. (Titus 2): Sanford Meisner: The Theater's Best Kept Secret. See Tuesday, September 23 at 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 27 at 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. (Titus 2): Victory over the Sun. See Tuesday, September 23 at 2:30 p.m.
- Sunday, September 28 at 2:00 p.m. (Titus 2): Great Actresses of the Past. Excerpts from: Madame Sans-Gêne. 1911. André Calmettes. With Gabrielle Réjane. 13 min./La Dame aux Camélias. 1912. André Calmettes. With Sarah Bernhardt, Lou Tellegen. 16 min./Vanity Fair. 1913. Eugene Nowland. With Minnie Maddern Fiske. 16 min./Cenere. 1916. Febo Mari, Arturo Ambrosio. With Eleanora Duse, Febo Mari. 31 min.
- Sunday, September 28 at 5:00 p.m. (Titus 2): Figaro e la sua Gran Giornata (Figaro's Big Day). 1931. Mario Camerini. With Leda Gloria, Maurizio D'Ancora. In Italian, English subtitles. 88 min.
- Tuesday, September 30 at 2:30 p.m. (Titus 1): Figaro e la sua Gran Giornata (Figaro's Big Day). See Sunday, September 28 at 5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 30 at 6:00 p.m. (Titus 1): Great Actresses of the Past. See Sunday, September 28 at 2:00 p.m.