

The Museum of Modern Art

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EDWARD R. PRESSMAN, PRODUCER

January 8 - 24, 1987

Badlands (1973), Das Boot (1982), and True Stories (1986) are among the films presented in an exhibition honoring Producer Edward R. Pressman at The Museum of Modern Art, beginning January 8, 1988. The retrospective EDWARD R. PRESSMAN, PRODUCER continues through January 24 in the Museum's Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2. Coordinated by Adrienne Mancia, curator in the Department of Film, the retrospective is comprised of eleven films made between 1966 and 1986.

On Friday, January 8, at 6:00 p.m., Mr. Pressman introduces the award-winning short Girl (1966), his first collaboration with Director Paul Williams; and a mint print of Badlands, Director Terence Malick's poetic reconstruction of a teenage couple's murder spree through the Midwest in the fifties, starring Sissy Spacek and Martin Sheen. Brian De Palma's Sisters (1973), a haunting murder story involving Siamese twins, is being screened the same day at 3:00 p.m.

The opening weekend continues on Saturday, January 9, at 2:30 p.m., with David Byrne's True Stories, a depiction of eccentric characters organizing a sesquicentennial celebration in a small Texas town, starring Mr. Byrne, Swoosie Kurtz, and Spalding Gray. At 5:30 p.m., the cult rock film Phantom of the Paradise (1974), Mr. De Palma's reworking of The Phantom of the Opera and The Picture of Dorian Gray, is being screened. John Milius's Conan the Barbarian (1982), based on a popular character created by Robert E. Howard in the thirties, is being shown on Sunday, January 10, at 2:30 p.m.

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Mr. Pressman recently donated nine excellent prints to the Museum's Archive. In addition to these, the series also includes two earlier gifts, both projects created with Mr. Williams: Out of It (1969), the semiautobiographical recounting of an adolescent's romantic summer adventures on Long Island, starring Jon Voight in his film debut; and The Revolutionary (1970), the story of a young man's radicalization--based on Hans Konigsberger's political novel set in 1902--updated to the sixties, starring Mr. Voight and Robert Duvall.

Other films in the series include Rainer Werner Fassbinder's Despair (1978), adapted by Tom Stoppard from Vladimir Nabokov's novel, the story of a Russian emigré who observes his mind splitting in two, played by Dirk Bogarde; John Byrum's Heart Beat (1979), a dramatization of the lives of Jack Kerouac and Neal and Carolyn Cassady set among the beat generation, starring Nick Nolte, Ms. Spacek, and John Heard; and Wolfgang Petersen's Das Boot, the tale of a German U-boat's adventures in the North Atlantic during World War II.

Recent productions by Mr. Pressman released in 1987 include the Taviani Brothers's Good Morning, Babylon, Alex Cox's Walker, and Oliver Stone's Wall Street. He is currently producing David Hare's Paris by Night, a political thriller starring Charlotte Rampling.

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For further press information and photographic materials on the Museum's exhibition, contact Howard Feinstein, film press representative, The Museum of Modern Art, 212/708-9752; on the career of Edward R. Pressman, Teri Kane at Clein + Feldman Inc., 212/247-4100.