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Brooklyn Academy of Music

Harvey Lichtenstein

and
Brooklyn Academy of Music

In association with
Gartenberg Media Enterprises

On the occasion
of the dedication of the
BAM Rose Cinemas

November 12, 1998

present

Brooklyn on Film: Then and Now

Prologue: It Happened in Brooklyn

It Happened in Brooklyn, 1947, Richard Whorf, starring Frank Sinatra and Gloria Grahame.

Act I: Art and Industry—Pride and Disaster

A look at Brooklyn as a center of both creativity and commerce.

A Vitagraph Romance, 1912, starring Clara Kimball Young, James Morrison, and James Young. The Vitagraph Co. of America built a major film production studio in 1906 at East Fifteenth Street and Locust Avenue in Flatbush. In this film, two actors decide to break into the movies.

Academy of Music Fire, 1903, American Mutoscope & Biograph Co. Firemen attempt to quell a blaze which destroyed the Brooklyn Academy of Music at its original site on Montague Street in Brooklyn Heights in 1903.

The 100 to 1 Shot; or, A Run of Luck, 1906, The Vitagraph Co. of America. A man saves his fiancée's family home from the threat of foreclosure through a big win at the Brighton Beach racetrack.

Bonus March in Brooklyn, 1923. World War I veterans march on Brooklyn's Borough Hall demanding payment of bonus wages for their war service.

Better New York City, 1930s. The WPA provides jobs and much-needed structural improvements throughout New York City, with special attention to the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Sheepshead Bay, and Floyd Bennett Field.

U.S.S. Brooklyn 10,000—Ton Light Cruiser Launched, 1936, Universal Newsreel. The launching of the U.S.S. Brooklyn at the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Worst Air Crash in History, 1960, Universal International News. Crash of two planes brings death and destruction to the Park Slope neighborhood of Brooklyn.

Act II: Entertainment—Visions of Coney Island

Views of Coney Island from the turn of the century to the present day in a range of genres: early "panorama" films and independent features.

Coney Island at Night, 1905, Edison Co. A nighttime panorama (taken at the turn of the century) of the famed amusement park, producing arresting geometric images of the Steeple Chase and Luna Park.

Little Fugitive, 1953, Morris Engel, Ruth Orkin, Ray Ashley, starring Richie Andrusco and Joey Brewster. A Brooklyn boy's search for his missing brother in Coney Island.

Act III: The Brooklyn Dodgers and Integration

Selections from documentaries and newsreels which highlight the pioneering role of Jackie Robinson in integrating the sport, together with some more light-hearted perceptions of the team and their fans.

Brooklyn, I Love You, 1950, Paramount Pictures.

Baseball, 1994, Ken Burns. In the chapter *The Sixth Inning: The National Pastime*, Jackie Robinson first appears at Ebbets Field in 1947.

Act IV: Ethnic Diversity and Neighborhoods

Footage featuring Brooklyn locals in diverse ethnic scenes.

Metropolitan Avenue, 1985, Christine Noschese. Women of diverse ethnicity choose to remain in the Greenpoint/Williamsburg neighborhood of Brooklyn in order to improve their community.

Celebration!, 1988, Karen Kramer. The annual Labor Day Pan-Caribbean Carnival on Eastern Parkway.

Joe's Bed-Stuy Barbershop: We Cut Heads, 1983, Spike Lee, starring Monty Ross and Donna Bailey.

Smoke, 1995, Wayne Wang, starring Harvey Keitel and William Hurt.

Act V: That Classic Icon—The Brooklyn Bridge

Representation of this famous icon from a variety of perspectives, from early actuality films, classic Hollywood musicals, and the pioneering avant-garde.

Donna Cameron at Work, 1991, Mike Kuchar, with Donna Cameron.

New Brooklyn to New York via Brooklyn Bridge, no. 1, 1899, Edison Co. A very rare nineteenth century film.

Under the Brooklyn Bridge, 1953, Rudy Burckhardt. A study of children diving and swimming beneath the bridge's shadow.

It Happened in Brooklyn, 1947, Richard Whorf, starring Frank Sinatra. Sinatra's musical ode to our beloved Brooklyn Bridge.