

The Museum of Modern Art

Department of Communications

Richard Kaplan: Wayfarer and Truth-Teller

February 7–14, 2011

The Roy and Niuta Titus Theaters

Richard Kaplan's 60 years of nonfiction filmmaking have taken him around the world and into situations of staggering moral complexity and social ambiguity. Though he started out in the 1950s making films commissioned by clients ranging from the U.S. Air Force to the Indian Handicrafts Commission, Kaplan's signature documentaries—including *The Eleanor Roosevelt Story*, which won the 1965 Academy Award for Best Documentary, and *King: A Filmed Record...Montgomery to Memphis*—were often self-produced, and arose out of his personal enthusiasm for their subjects. In addition to filmmaking, Kaplan has been a respected college professor and a media consultant for organizations such as the Writers' Guild, the American Museum of the Moving Image, and the United States Information Agency.

Organized by Laurence Kardish, Senior Curator, Department of Film, with thanks to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Paley Center for Media, The Library of Congress—Motion Picture Division, and the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theater Research.

Press Contact: (212) 708-9431, pressoffice@moma.org

For downloadable high-resolution images, register at the [MoMA Press Image Center](#).

Hours: Films are screened Wednesday–Monday. For screening schedules, please visit our [Film Exhibitions](#).

Film Admission: \$10 adults; \$8 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D. \$6 full-time students with current I.D. (For admittance to film programs only.) The price of a film ticket may be applied toward the price of a Museum admission ticket when a film ticket stub is presented at the Lobby Information Desk within 30 days of the date on the stub (does not apply during Target Free Friday Nights, 4:00–8:00 p.m.). Admission is free for Museum members and for Museum ticketholders.

Public Information:

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019, (212) 708-9400

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Hours: Wednesday through Monday: 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Friday: 10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
Closed Tuesday

Screening Schedule
Richard Kaplan: Wayfarer and Truth-Teller
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Star of Bethlehem

1969. Great Britain. Directed by Lotte Reiniger. Produced by Richard Kaplan for Primrose Pictures. Silhouette animation of the Nativity story. 19 min.

Black Fox: The Rise and Fall of Adolf Hitler

1962. USA. Written, directed, and produced by Louis Clyde Stoumen. Production supervision by Richard Kaplan. Narrated by Marlene Dietrich. Based in part on the 12th-century folk tale "Reynard the Fox," as adapted by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Documenting the troubled beginnings of Adolf Hitler—from bitter boyhood in Austria to the frustrations of a failed artist—and the ruthless drive to power that would ultimately cause the destruction of millions of lives, the film also examines the historical landscape that fostered the rise of such a demonic personality. 89 min.

[Monday, February 7, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

[Saturday, February 12, 2011, 7:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

The Eleanor Roosevelt Story

1965. USA. Directed by Richard Kaplan. Screenplay by Archibald MacLeish. Narrated by MacLeish, Eric Severeid, Coleman Francis. This engaging film reveals the human face behind an American icon. Beginning with the emotional deprivation suffered by an awkward girl born into a prominent and powerful family, and tracing her life with a husband of unparalleled political prowess, this documentary forefronts Mrs. Roosevelt's lifelong crusade against injustice and oppression in any form. 90 min.

[Monday, February 7, 2011, 8:00 p.m., Theater 1, T1 \(Introduced by and Q&A with Kaplan\)](#)

[Saturday, February 12, 2011, 1:00 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

Richard Kaplan Shorts Program 1

I See a Village. 1968. 28 min.

Confrontation. 1968. 25 min.

Elephants. 1968. 10 min.

Lost Wax. 1968. 10 min.

China Journal. 1985. 25 min.

[Wednesday, February 9, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

[Monday, February 14, 2011, 4:00 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

Varian and Putzi: A 20th-Century Tale

2003. USA. Written, directed, and produced by Richard Kaplan. A documentary about two Americans who graduated from Harvard and took different paths during the rise of the Third Reich: Varian Fry, who rescued hundreds of European artists and intellectuals from the Nazis, and Ernst "Putzi" Hanfstängel, who, until his return to the United States in 1937, was Hitler's foreign press chief. 80 min.

Assignment: Rescue

1997. USA. Directed by Richard Kaplan. Made for the Varian Fry Foundation/IRC. Narrated by Meryl Streep. A short documentary about Varian Fry and the Emergency Rescue Committee during World War II. 28 min.

[Wednesday, February 9, 2011, 8:00 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

[Friday, February 11, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

Richard Kaplan Shorts Program 2

Forbidden City. 1956. Music by the Peking Opera. 22 min.

India: Crafts and the Craftsmen. 1967. 15 min.

Vision of the World. 1966. 21 min.

You Get What You Pay For. 1970. 29 min.

The Vikings: Life and Conquests. 1959. 17 min.

Broadway Goes to the Movies. 1973. 10 min.

[Thursday, February 10, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

[Monday, February 14, 2011, 4:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

The Exiles

1989. USA. Written and directed by Richard Kaplan. The film's tag line, "They Fled Hitler, They Found America," describes the journey of European intellectuals who escaped to the U.S. before World War II. Writers, musicians, and scholars including Josef Albers, Hannah Arendt, Bruno Bettelheim, Bertolt Brecht, Max Ernst, Walter Gropius, Fritz Lang, Jacques Lipchitz, Thomas Mann, Herbert Marcuse, Robert Motherwell, Arnold Schoenberg, Rod Steiger, and Billy Wilder, to name a few, populate this film of testimony, interviews, and archival footage. 116 min.

[Thursday, February 10, 2011, 8:00 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

[Sunday, February 13, 2011, 5:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

Two Portraits of Extraordinary Women

Happy Birthday, Mrs. Craig!

1971. USA. Directed by Richard Kaplan. Celebrating the life and family of Mrs. Lulu Sadler Craig—an African American woman whose struggle and triumph came to characterize aspects of the American experience—on the occasion of her 102nd birthday. 54 min.

A Look at Liv

1977. USA. Directed by Richard Kaplan. Screenplay by Kaplan, Jerry Winters. Also known as *Liv Ullmann's Norway*, Kaplan's film marks the first time the acclaimed actress and writer allowed a filmmaker access to her personal life, including her relationship with Ingmar Bergman. Ullmann, a perceptive commentator on the human condition, discusses how her national heritage influenced her. 67 min.

[Friday, February 11, 2011, 8:00 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

[Saturday, February 12, 2011, 3:00 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

Shorts Program 3

Phoenix Theatre. 1971. 43 min.

Contemporary Scandinavia. 1966. 28 min.

Road to World War II. 1963. 19 min.

[Saturday, February 12, 2011, 5:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)

King: A Filmed Record...Montgomery to Memphis

1970. USA. Directed by Richard Kaplan. Produced for the Martin Luther King, Jr., Foundation by Ely Landau, with Richard Kaplan as associate producer. Newsreels and other footage document the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr., from the 1955 Montgomery bus boycott to his assassination in 1968. King's key speeches are read by Harry Belafonte, Ruby Dee, Ben Gazzara, Charlton Heston, James Earl Jones, Burt Lancaster, Paul Newman, Anthony Quinn, Clarence Williams III, and Joanne Woodward. 180 min.

[Sunday, February 13, 2011, 1:30 p.m., Theater 1, T1](#)