THE MECHANICS OF LOVE BY WILLARD MAAS AND BEN MOORE
THE MECHANICS OF LOVE

is a daring and ingenious film: daring because of its "forbidden" subject matter; ingenious because commonplace objects are uncommonly related to build an action without actors, yet the effect of which is vivid, witty, and downright bold.

JACOBS

Director, author of THE RISE OF THE AMERICAN FILM
WILLARD MAAS

Willard Maas, well-known as a poet before making films, is author of two books of poems and winner of POETRY'S Guarantor's Prize. With British poet George Barker he made GEOGRAPHY OF THE BODY which has become an experimental film classic. His second film, IMAGE IN THE SNOW, integrated poetry, music, and visual images into a new cinematic completeness. Hissed and applauded at its Cinema 16 premiere, it was later voted by the membership one of the ten best films of the season. At present he is working on a new full-length film, NARCISSUS.

THE MECHANICS OF LOVE

Ben Moore became attracted to making films while studying aerial photography with the Army Engineers. He has published poems with NEW DIRECTIONS, and this joint interest in poetry and the film led to his collaboration with Willard Maas. They are at present working together on NARCIISSUS, a modern treatment of the Greek myth, and Mr. Moore is completing his 4 AMERICAN ARTISTS, a film concentrating on the techniques of three contemporary painters, Stamos, Menken, Pereira, and one sculptor, de Rivera. Both these films will be released early in 1955.

BEN MOORE
HE MECHANICS OF LOVE:

A FILM POEM BY WILLARD MAAS AND BEN MOORE. ORIGINAL SCORE FOR ZITHER BY JOHN GRUEN. 16MM. BLACK AND WHITE. RUNNING TIME, 7 MINUTES. RENTAL, $10.00. NO SALE. SUITABLE FOR RESTRICTED AUDIENCES ONLY. GRYPHON PRODUCTIONS, 117 GREENE STREET, NEW YORK 12.

In this room a boy and a girl make love. Make love is a phrase full of wonder. Here the creator and his subject are one. If the lovers are beautiful, the troubadours are no longer dead. Their music is sweet as when it first sounded. How right they are to hide, these lovers, and be gentle to us as to themselves.

THE ZITHER SCORE FOR THE MECHANICS OF LOVE WAS COMPOSED AND PLAYED BY JOHN GRUEN. HE IS CHIEFLY NOTED FOR SETTING MODERN POETRY TO MUSIC. HIS TWO SONG CYCLES ON THE POEMS OF JAMES JOYCE AND WALLACE STEVENS HAVE BEEN RECORDED BY CONTEMPORARY RECORDS, INC. RECENTLY UNESCO COMMISSIONED HIM TO DO THE MUSIC FOR A FILM DIRECTED BY ALEXANDER HAMMID. HE WILL ALSO SCORE AND DIRECT THE MUSIC FOR HANS RICHTER'S NEW FULL-LENGTH COLOR FILM.
FROM THE DIALOGUE FOR THE MECHANICS OF LOVE

By Ben Moore

THE GIRL: (keys)  
Even before I knew,  
I knew what it was like.  
No one told me, but I knew.

THE BOY: (nailfile)  
And I shall never finish wondering.

THE GIRL: (lamp on)  
They come back when I least expect them,  
when I don't need them.

THE BOY: (stove)  
Do you have to think of others?

MUSIC begins tentative and continues  
through rest of action--growing . . .

THE GIRL: (typewriter)  
It's not my choice. It never has been.

THE BOY: (needle & thread)  
Shhh! Be quiet or I'll have to say  
I love you.

THE GIRL: (as the martini  
pours into glass)  
But you do.

THE BOY: (scissors cut paper)  
Yes, but you know.

THE GIRL: (bird in cage)  
Oh. Oh!

MUSIC takes over until child's swing  
when it is suddenly quiet.
...chastely, perhaps
too chastely, portrayed:
PARKER TYLER
...moving moments
of recognition.
This film is not
shocking, but the human
mind is shocked by it:
JUDITH MALINA & JULIAN BECK
The Living Theatre