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The Cameraman

7:00 pm, Tuesday
October 22
(L29)

At the Tivoli



Director: Edward M. Sedgwick, Jr.

Producer: Buster Keaton

Screenplay: Clyde Bruckman, Lew Lipton, E. Richard Schayer

Cinematographer: Elgin Lessley, Reggie Landing

Cast: Buster Keaton, Marceline Day, Harold Goodwin

Print Source: Turner Entertainment Company

Film was born 100 years ago. Buster Keaton was born 100 years ago. There is more than a casual connection. Of the three major silent comedians, Keaton worked primarily with the studio distribution system. Of the three major comedians, only he did not own his films. And yet, Buster Keaton remains the best remembered of the three. He remains the best director of the three. He remains the funniest of the three. His films show a knowledge of the art as well as of the audience. They are not preachy or full of pathos as Chaplin's later films, nor are they based on the clothesline and gag style of Lloyd's best films in which humor punched, rather than advanced, the story. In Keaton's work, in the days when the studios and money men left him alone, you find comedy as style and comedy as character. The gags

advance the story and your understanding of who these dancing shadows truly are. The Cameraman was Keaton's first film under the production wing of MGM and the last in which the studio truly left him alone. It was also the last time he was allowed to work with the talented technical and story crew with whom he created his great films of the 20s, from The High Sign to Steamboat Bill, Jr. This is the final exclamation of a great artist's life, for while Keaton lived and worked for another 38 years, this was the final time he was able to prove that independence was a blessing in film, not a bottom line money waster. Enjoy. You are in the presence of greatness.

Introduced by Greg Moody, KCNC-TV

Musical accompaniment by
The Mont Alto Theatre Orchestra