

## Document Citation

Title	<b>Charlie Chaplin welcomed back to U.S. at big gala</b>
Author(s)	
Source	<i>Vallejo Times-Herald</i>
Date	1972 Apr 5
Type	article
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	Chaplin, Charlie (1889-1977), Walworth, London, Great Britain
Film Subjects	The kid, Chaplin, Charlie, 1921 A countess from Hong Kong, Chaplin, Charlie, 1967 The idle class, Chaplin, Charlie, 1921 A king in New York, Chaplin, Charlie, 1957

APR. 5 1972

# Charlie Chaplin Welcomed Back To U.S. At Big Gala

NEW YORK (UPI) — Twenty years of bitterness were erased Tuesday night for 82-year-old Charlie Chaplin at a triumphant welcome-back gala at Lincoln Center.

Some 2,800 Chaplin fans and show business personalities paid up to \$100 a ticket to attend a "Salute to Charles Chaplin" at Philharmonic Hall. The evening included a screening of two of Chaplin's silent films, "The Kid" and "The Idle Class," a brief speech by the onetime king of comics, and a champagne reception.

Proceeds from the event went to the Film Society of Lincoln Center to underwrite its 1972 film festival. In an unprecedented bid for funds, the society charged reporters \$25 for their tickets and film crews making documentaries \$460.

Chaplin and his 46-year-old wife, the former Oona O'Neill, flew in Monday from Bermuda for the tribute here and for the

award of a special Oscar to the actor-director-producer at the Academy Award ceremonies in Hollywood next Monday. Chaplin, plump and pink-faced but slow in his gait, said he was "delighted" to be back.

The government revoked Chaplin's re-entry permit in 1952 on the basis of moral turpitude and association with Communists and challenged him to prove his "moral worth." Chaplin, a British subject, chose to remain in Europe, where for many years he made no attempt to disguise his rancor against the United States.

With time, however, "the unpleasant things have faded," Chaplin told a visitor recently at his Vevey, Switzerland, home where he lives with five of his eight children by Mrs. Chaplin, his fourth wife.

Chaplin came to New York for the first time in 1910 with a vaudeville troupe from London

and caught the eye of Mack Sennett of the Keystone Comedies, who paid the comedian \$150 to make three movie shorts a week. He found international fame in the character of The Tramp and became a millionaire.

After 1936, Chaplin concen- cial comment with varying cial comment wiht varying success. His last film, "The Countess From Hong Kong" was a flop and his movie in dictment of the American way of life, "The King in New York," made in 1956, has never been released in the United States.

But the king himself was back in New York and will be presented with the city's highest cultural award, the Handel Medal, by Mayor John V. Lindsay on Thursday. Chaplin's visit has touched off a spate of Chaplin film festivals around the country including major ones in New York and Wash- ington.