

Some of the author's best-known works are *People of the Deer*, *A Whale for the Killing*, *Never Cry Wolf*, and the recently filmed *Sea of Slaughter*, which chronicles the destruction of species in the north Atlantic. Among his many awards are the Governor General's Award, the Hans Christian Andersen International Award, the Étoile de la Mer and the Anisfield-Wolfe Award for outstanding work in the field of race relations.

Profound and Compassionate

Alice Munro, another of Canada's superbly talented writers, is acclaimed for her profound and compassionate short stories chronicling the lives of ordinary people. Vivid characterization and rich detail give Munro's stories the impact of a full novel. Three-time Governor General's Award winner, Munro's 1978 volume *Who Do You Think You Are?* was also runner-up for the Booker Prize. Her works are extremely popular in Scandinavia and have had impressive sales in Spain, Germany and Japan.

Numerous new writers have swelled the ranks of Canadian literature in the past three decades, and many of these have taken their place beside the established authors on the international stage. David Adams Richards's *The Coming of Winter*, written when the author was only 22, sold 200 000 copies when it was published in the Soviet Union. His most recent novel, *Nights Below Station Street*, earned him the Governor General's Award.

Another new writer who has attracted international interest is Guy Vanderhaeghe, whose novel *My Present Age* was nominated for the Booker Prize. He was also awarded Britain's Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize in 1987.

Multicultural Experience

The international stature of Canadian literature is secured not only by the popularity of Canadian books abroad but also by the multicultural character of this country's corps of writers. In addition to the growing number of aboriginal people committing their experience to paper, Canada has many authors whose ethnic backgrounds are neither British nor French.

Jewish writers, including Mordecai Richler, Leonard Cohen and Irving Layton, have made a particularly strong contribution to Canadian literature. Canadians of European descent have also achieved recognition, notably Czech-born Josef Skvorecky, who received the Governor General's Award for the acclaimed *The Story of an Engineer of Human Souls*. Ukrainian-Canadian Janice Kulyk Keefer made her mark internationally when she won the Prism International Fiction Competition in 1984.

Brian Moore, said to be Graham Greene's favourite novelist, is an Irishman who became a Canadian citizen and now lives in California. He wrote his first three novels in Canada and the country continues to feature in his work, especially in *The Black Robe*, recently nominated for the Booker Prize. Other prominent names include Michael Ondaatje (born in Sri Lanka), winner of two Governor General's awards and the Canada-Australia Literary Prize, and Joy Kagawa, awarded three international literary prizes for *Obasan*, her 1981 book dealing with the Japanese-Canadian experience.



Brian Willer

Kids' Lit

Canadian children's books are also receiving more international recognition than ever before. At the 1989 Bologna Children's Book Fair, the most important and largest annual international fair for children's books, the 34 Canadian publishing houses represented reaped over \$7 million through co-publishing and translation rights with foreign publishers.

At the forefront of the Canadian Kids' Lit scene is Robert Munsch, who has sold more than three million books worldwide. His stories have been translated into many major languages and are

The phenomenal success of the latest of Margaret Atwood's eight novels, *Cat's Eye*, underscores the brilliance of her work which has won her a devoted following in more than two dozen countries.

available on record and tape. Since his debut in 1979 with *The Dark*, Munsch has published two or three books per year.

Stéphane Poulin is one of French Canada's best-known writers/illustrators. Already successful at 28, Poulin first