

Faculty

Focus



Ara Parker

Frenkel pursues art

Mike Guy

Vera Frenkel, Visual Arts Professor, writer, performer, director and editor, takes her work seriously. She says that "people sometimes confuse art with entertainment, and property". To Frenkel, though, art means a great deal more. For this reason, and because she was doing more drawing than writing, after completing her graduate work in anthropology, she decided to pursue a career in art.

Frenkel's pursuit of an artistic career took her to Europe. Upon returning, she studied printmaking at L'Ecole des Beaux Arts in Montreal. Later, Frenkel moved to Toronto, where she and a friend shared a studio. And in 1970 two parallel travelling exhibitions of her work were organized by the National Gallery of Canada.

In 1970 she was asked by the Italian Jury to represent Canada at the Venice Biennale where her work was highly acclaimed. Following that, Frenkel was invited to teach at York.

Her successes did not end with her York appointment. In 1974 she directed a series of tapes which used Bell Canada's teleconferencing facilities between Montreal and Toronto. The result was an astounding bit of work titled, "String Games: Improvisation for Inter-City Video", which involved the use of gesture, sound, images, culture codes and language". Frenkel is interested in "how received ideas and embedded assumptions are transmitted through popular culture formats to construct thoughts and sometimes even to sever the self from the senses". In this respect, the "String Games" is an "example of how childhood games can penetrate and shape adult consciousness".

Frenkel's other interdisciplinary works have been exhibited in major shows such as the Gallery of Stratford (*The Big Book, Above Intentions and Executions*, 1976) and at the Vancouver Art Gallery (*Lies and Truths*, 1978). Most recently, Frenkel has appeared in *Off the Wall*, a film about Toronto artists. In the near future, her exhibition *Likely Stories: Image/Sound/Text* will be displayed in Kingston at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen's University, for six weeks from March 4 to April 11. Also at Queen's, she will give a lecture on art and popular wisdom, and her two-channel tape *Sign of a Plot, A Text, True Story, and Works of Arts* will be presented at the Canada In Berlin Festival next December and January.

News In Brief

After months of searching the Council of the York Student Federation has found a new co-ordinator for the Campus Connection.

CYSF officials interviewed and selected Karen Stewart on Wednesday. Stewart is a social worker with ten years of experience.

Stewart is planning to combine her new position with part-time studies at York. She says her first task is to build the Connection into a viable and credible service, because it has not been open for a long time.

"We'll have to start recruiting volunteers. I think volunteers are the crux of the whole service."

Bette Stephenson announced this week that tuition fees for the 1982-83 academic term will rise 12.2 per cent with universities being allowed to tack a 10% discretionary charge on top of this. This will hike tuition up to \$1,050.00 with an extra \$106.00 toward student, OSF and other auxiliary service fees.

Visa students will be much harder hit. Present visa holders' fees will be raised to \$2,385.00 and new foreign students will pay a whopping \$2,835.00 as undergraduates and an unbelievable \$4,400.00 to study a profession.

York President Ian MacDonald recently addressed a conference at MacLaughlin on the future prospects of Ontario universities. He denied that York University would ever be hindered by the bureaucratic workings of the Senate and the Board of Governors. MacDonald said that the focal issue for York students should be the standards in "the classroom, library and laboratory", which can only be maintained by sufficient funding. He emphasized the detrimental effects of government underfunding.

University of Western Ontario students voted to remain in Ontario Federation of Students by a margin of almost 600 votes. The 7,000 votes cast represented the largest student plebescite ever held at an Ontario university.

The 'no' side accused the O.F.S. of ineffectiveness and idealism, while the 'yes' side said Western's interests were being very well represented.

Peterson leads Liberals

PJ Todd and Berel Wetstein
The Ontario Liberals realized their ideological trend toward the political right in the election of David Peterson as party leader.

The 38-year-old London West MPP won on the second ballot with 1,136 votes, defeating Hamilton Centre's Sheila Copps who garnered 774 votes.

Copps, an underdog coming into the race, delivered a flat, cliché-ridden speech at the crucial Sunday morning vote plea.

Oratorically upstaging all other candidates, Richard Thomas, a veteran broadcaster, sealed the fates of Jim Breithaupt and anti-abortionist John Sweeney.

In the first ballot Peterson collected all but 84 of the votes required for a quick win. The second ballot victory was inevitable as most of the Breithaupt and Sweeney votes swung to the more right-leaning Peterson.

Election disputed

Michael Monastyrskyj
At a stormy meeting held Saturday, the General Assembly of the Atkinson College Students' Association voted in a new Executive Council, but an unsuccessful candidate has charged that the election is invalid.

The council session, which included frequent interruptions and bouts of name-calling, saw Rosamond Rogers defeat Sylvia Teaves to become ACSA president. Seventeen assembly members supported Rogers, while nine voted for Teaves.

In the tight vice-presidential race, elections officer Ralph Markham cast the deciding vote, favouring Sonny Francois over Dan Bloom. Claudio Lewis is the new Director of Internal Affairs, Esther Sadavoy has obtained the portfolio of Academic Affairs and Brenda Weston will oversee Community Relations.

Courtney Doldron was the only candidate for Director of External Affairs, but failed to obtain the post as he did not have the support of fifty per cent of those voting.

Doldron argues that the election is invalid because the assembly registered new members immediately before the

vote and thus violated the ACSA's by-laws. He says that a notice that the elections officer published in the *Atkinsonian* indicated that new members would only be registered at the end of the meeting. In Doldron's opinion potential voters were discouraged and "over 12,000 Atkinson students were disenfranchised...."

Outgoing president Dario Gritti, whose term ends April 30, believes Doldron is more concerned with his own defeat than he is with electoral procedure. According to Gritti, "If he's going to appeal he's going to have to go to the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. He's going to have to prove that there were significant procedural irregularities."

Doldron, however, said, "I don't think the executive would grant me a tribunal." For this reason he is appealing to the Dean's office.

Acting Dean Ron Bordessa and Rogers were unavailable for comment. Teaves would not discuss Doldron's action but did say, "she will make a very good president."

She also praised the council's decision to examine the current method of electing officers.



- York sent five delegates to the convention. All but one were in the Breithaupt camp, while the Osgoode delegate supported Copps.

Bob Walman, a Breithaupt supporter and York student, commented on his candidates poor performance. "Jim knew he was trailing coming into the convention, but he hoped to meet people one-on-one. Unfortunately this opportunity never presented itself."

Romanow's solution is compromise

Janis Rosen

Speaking on the Western Perspective in Canada, Saskatchewan Attorney-General Roy Romanow told a Glendon audience that Ottawa cannot possibly represent our vast nation and that the federal and provincial governments must work towards compromise.

Addressing a crowd of about 200 people, Romanow also stated that the West should share its wealth and resources with the rest of Canada, but under a revised system. "It is impossible," he said, "for Canada

to work as a central state."

Romanow stressed the West's feeling of alienation, but suggested that the recent election of Gordon Kessler in Olds, Alberta (Kessler is the first separatist to win an election outside of Quebec) has exaggerated the problem.

Saying that the West's feud with Ottawa hinges on economic matters, Romanow pointed not to the oil industry, but to agriculture as the main source of hard feelings. Noting that grain is still the "king" in the West, Romanow said that the farmer's

struggle has always been present in the grain industry and that now, more than ever, farmers feel ignored by the federal government.

Romanow, speaking with ease and conviction on what he calls "a frustrating topic", rejected the "far right-winged ideology" of Western separatism—a policy that would leave the West to be "swallowed up by the United States."

Romanow's solution is a co-operative federalism with more communication between Ottawa and the provinces.

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