

News of the arts

Artists at Paris art exhibition

The works of 13 Canadian artists will be shown in the eleventh Biennale de Paris, a renowned international exhibition of paintings, sculptures, film, video, architecture, installations, performance art, and other areas of artistic activity.

After consultation with the Commissioners of the Biennale Committee in Paris, works by the following artists were selected: object and/or installation artists David Craven, Robert Fish, Raymond Gervais, John Massey; video artists Susan Britton, Elizabeth Chitty, Kate Craig, Margaret Dragu, Noel Harding; and performance artists Timothy Denis Clark, Max Dean, John Greyson, Kim Tomczak.

The Biennale will be held at the A.R.C. (Art, Recherche, Confrontation) and also at the Centre Pompidou from September 20 to November 3. Works by the object/installation artists will occupy space for the entire run of the exhibition; the video artists' tapes will be shown continuously together with tapes of other international video artists, and the four performance artists will perform in the latter part of October.

Canada has more artists represented in the Biennale this year than any other country with the exception of the host country, France, which will be showing 28 artists. Until 1980, Canada's participation in the Biennale was arranged by correspondents across the country who recommended artists to the Biennale Committee. This year, in consultation with

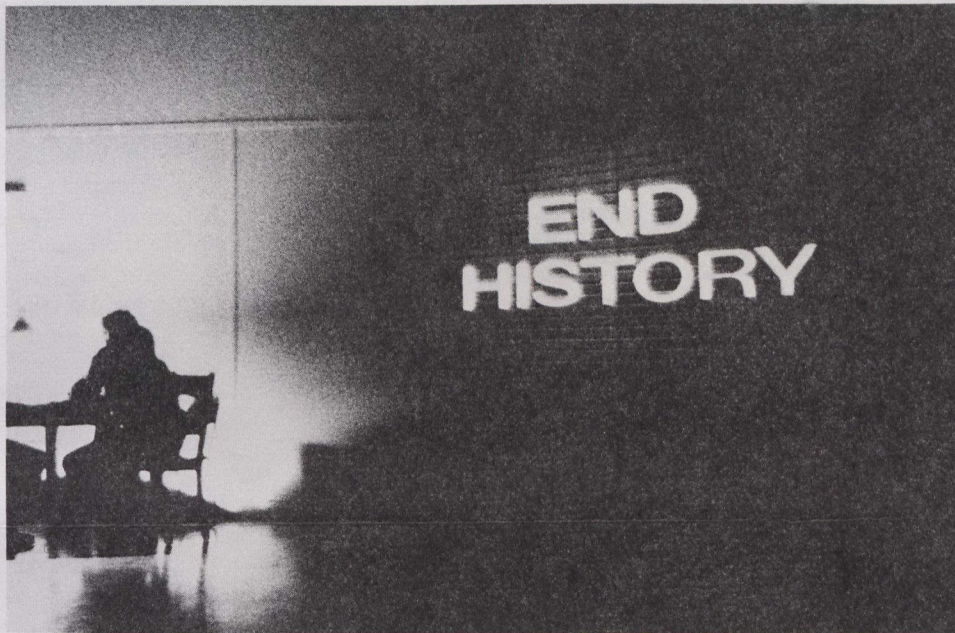


Photo by performance artist Kim Tomczak.

the Canada Council, art consultant Alvin Balkind was chosen by the Department of External Affairs to represent Canada for the first time on the Committee as a commissioner. His task is to recommend and co-ordinate Canadian participation.

Mr. Balkind describes the Canadians chosen to participate in the Biennale as artists who, in their work, express various

elements of the vanguard of artistic activity in Canada; some have achieved a considerable degree of critical and public renown and all are highly regarded by their peers. He said that from such a presentation it should be clear to the knowledgeable European observer that there exists "considerable artistic ferment" in Canada.

National Film Board wins at American Film Festival

The National Film Board of Canada (NFB) has again won top blue-ribbon awards from the recent American Film Festival in New York City. This year's blue ribbons went to *Every Child*, *Sea Dream* and *Log House*.

Every Child was the 1980 Oscar-winner for best animated short. The story dramatizes one of the Ten Principles of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, namely that all children are entitled to a name and a nationality. Produced by Derek Lamb and directed by Eugene Fedorenko, *Every Child* was Canada's contribution to a film produced by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in celebration of the Year of the Child.

Sea Dream is an animated short directed by Ellen Besen and produced by Margaret Pettigrew. This film shows how one little girl overcomes the day's hassles and frustrations by diving into an underworld fantasy.

Michael Rubbo and Andreas Poulsson co-directed *Log House*, a half-hour film on the craftsmanship of building a log cabin. The film has also won international recognition in Brussels, winning the prize of the Belgium National Centre of Films for Children. Roman Bittman and Colin Low were the producers.

In addition to the blue ribbon awards, the Film Board also received red ribbons for *Priory*, *The Only Home I've Got*, directed by Mark Dolgoy and produced by Anne Wheeler and Mike Scott, and *The Case of Barbara Parsons*, produced by Parker Films Associates for Labour Canada.

The American Film Festival is sponsored by the Educational Film Library Association and is the annual showcase for 16mm educational films. Over the years the NFB has been an active participant in the festival and has received a number of awards for its contribution to educational film-making.



Octopus in latex by Robert Fish.

Robert Keziere, VAG