

Native voices silent in Vancouver anthology

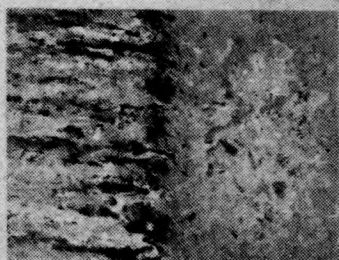
By KEVIN O'NEILL

Vancouver Fiction
edited by David Wainmough
Polaris Press, 1985
200 pp., \$12.95

One has to approach a collection such as this with a little bit of caution, especially when one lives in the eastern part of Canada. We here in the east are constantly looking at our compatriots from the west coast with a wary eye due to their supposed opposite lifestyles. When a book titled *Vancouver Fiction* comes across one's desk the limitless possibilities that may abound between the covers is enough to boggle the mind of any Torontonian. However, all fears and cautions were unnecessary as this collection is an excellent representation of not only fiction coming out of Vancouver but also of Canadian fiction.

Editor David Wainmough has put together a fairly diverse anthology of 13 pieces (including one of his own) and for the most part they are very readable and enjoyable. Most of the stories are short stories but Wainmough has wisely included some excerpts from novels by Hubert Evans, Ethel Wilson, Keith Maillard, Beverley Simons and Betty Lambert whose "Crossings" excerpt is the most enjoyable piece in the book.

VANCOUVER FICTION



Strangely enough only one work is done by a native Vancouverite, which is to the benefit of the book. The insight provided by an outsider's perspective gives many of the stories a fresh breath and provides a somewhat enthusiastic approach to a region of the land we in Toronto know very little about.

However, this also works against the book in that the reader will have a hard time believing in a book titled *Vancouver Fiction* when only one of 13 stories is by a native Vancouverite. What is missing is the soul of the city. Like a tourist's view the majority of the stories focus mainly on the physical attractiveness of the city and leave the ugly marks behind.

But overall the collection is a success. Included are examples of humor, satire, politics, realism and stuff that does not make any sense (see the story by Keith Maillard). Due to the wide diversity of viewpoints presented, the book succeeds

where other anthologies might fail, and the central theme of Vancouver also aids the book immeasurably. Mr. Wainmough is to be congratulated but also advised to try to get more natives in any future anthologies he has planned.

Chockfullof . . . ?

By R.D. MACPHERSON

I'll make no bones about it: I'm a Fyfe-fan. When his show opened in the I.D.A. Gallery this past Monday, I might not have been there but I wish I had been. (Peter Fyfe, Mitchell Jackson and Wayne Emery will be displaying their latest artistic enterprises from now until January 10).

Fyfe paints with brushes on canvas, making pictures while he goes. Fyfe's ideas, expressed in the ever-popular manifesto format, might upset some other artists or critics, who, unlike myself, do not know

that Fyfe has suffered in translation. Peter's catalogue was published originally in English, and I attempted vainly to gain the rights for translation. Some peripheral art-world type known only as Hab procured the means to ultimately destroy Fyfe's words. All this talk of angst—one look at Fyfe's paintings will tell even the most uneducated viewer that Peter could not even know the meaning of the word. He probably wrote "chockfullofgoodness," which, to a reprobate like the shady Hab, could easily suffer by translation. But do see the show, and see why Fyfe's paintings continually win mention in Sports Illustrated.

At right: Detail of Fyfe's "Court Jesters" (1985). Says Fyfe, "The Art Gallery must be destroyed." It creates "nasty, mean, dark art." We agree.



Crisp & Schnappy.



After your favourite activity here's a cool blast of freshness. Peppermint Schnapps, Spearmint Schnapps and new Orange Schnapps. So what are you waiting for? Schnapp to it.

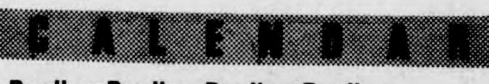
HIRAM WALKER SCHNAPPS
TASTE THE DIFFERENCE

EXCALIBUR January 9, 1986



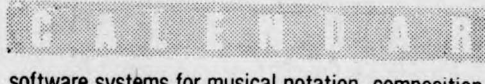
Lectures Lectures Lectures Lectures Lectures

An Evening with Dave Broadfoot, Satirist
Curtis 'F', January 14, 7:30 p.m.
Critical Condition; Art Criticism Today, Mavor Moore,
312 Fine Arts Building, January 15, 12-2 p.m.
Don Kane, Warden, Warkworth Institution Speaking on "Exactly What Do Brer Rabbit and Tar Baby Have to do with Incarceration Anyway"
Fellows' Lounge, Atkinson College, Jan. 29, 7 p.m.



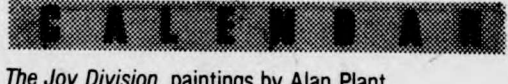
Readings Readings Readings Readings

Reports from the Anti-Face, poetry readings by Rafael Barreto-Rivera, Claudio V. Duran, Margarita Feliciano
Fellows' Lounge, 004a Atkinson, January 21, 8 p.m.
Canadian Women Writers at Glendon: Adele Wiseman
Senior Common Room, Third Floor, York Hall Glendon College, January 9, 8 p.m.



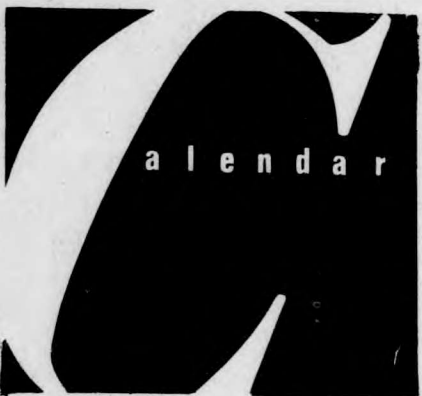
CALENDAR

software systems for musical notation, composition and performance
McLaughlin Hall, January 10, 2-6 p.m.
Film Film Film Film Film Film Film Film Film Film
Department of Humanities Film Series: *The Cinema of Ideas*, a Humanities perspective on 3 films about education
January 17: *Educating Rita*, Nat Taylor Cinema, 7:30 p.m.
Admission free, reserve tickets available in Humanities office or Masters office



CALENDAR

The Joy Division, paintings by Alan Plant
Founders Gallery, January 13-19
Ron Shuebrook, *Recent Reliefs and Drawings*
Art Gallery of York University, January 7-31
Apocalypse at Downtown Drive Inn, Photomontage by Richard Slye
Winters College Gallery; January 6-31
Music Music Music Music Music Music Music
SoftMusic '86: Alumni, faculty, friends of York Music Dept., demonstrating the latest in computer



CALENDAR

Galleries Galleries Galleries Galleries Galleries
Peter Fyfe—Paintings, Wayne Emery—Works on Paper, Mitchell Jackson—Polaroid
I.D.A. Gallery, January 6-10
Heidi Giblon and Christopher Combs, *Portrait Plays*
I.D.A. Gallery, January 13-17
Jacqueline Benyes, *Photographer*
Samuel J. Zacks Gallery, January 8-17
Someone Will Dream, Multimedia work by Raquel Rivera and Celine Laflamme
Founders Gallery, January 6-12