

## Exhibit designed for sense of touch

*Taction: Reach Out*, an exhibition which makes crafts accessible to handicapped people who seldom have the opportunity to experience them, is currently on tour and will be shown at a number of Ontario centres until the end of August.

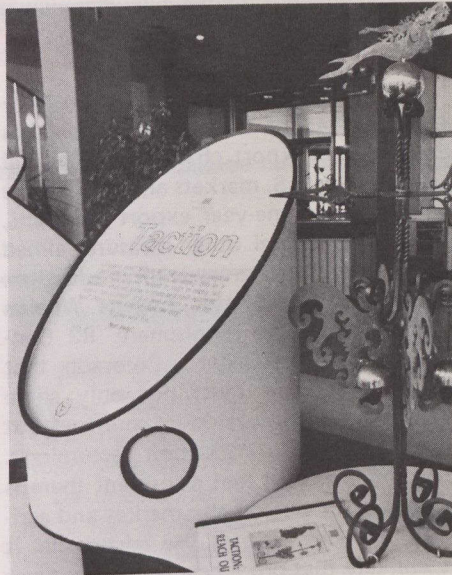
The exhibition, presented by the Ontario Crafts Council to commemorate the International Year of the Disabled in 1981, is presented in a way that invites tactile exploration.

The works chosen for the exhibition had to be interesting to the touch, said exhibition co-ordinator Hilary Abrahamson. "We wanted to have work that was representative of many media and strong enough to withstand considerable handling and travelling," she said.

### Handholes in cases permit access

Each of the 15 objects in the exhibition is mounted in a specially designed case that has handholes through which the object can be touched. The base of each case has been cut away to permit wheelchair access, and the cases are labelled in Braille. Two exhibition catalogues are available, one printed in large type which is suitable for people with limited vision and the other in Braille.

Among the objects on display is an outstanding sculptured bronze relief by Dora de Pedery-Hunt which portrays a closed eye (representing blindness) and bears a Braille inscription reading: "There



Exhibition was designed specially for sense of touch.

is light behind the shadows." A limestone sculpture entitled *Whirl Winds*, by David General of the Six Nations Reserve in Brantford, provides a striking contrast in texture, as do Wayne Cardinalli's pebbly stoneware teapot, Philippe Durocher's cold, hard freeblown glass vase, and Stephen Hogbin's nutshell-shaped elm bowl.

Fibre arts are represented by a crocheted, embroidered and beaded doll by Jude Crossland; a linen skirt, woven in relief, by David H. Kaye; and handmade felt strips by Hey Frey.

While the exhibition is primarily oriented to the sense of touch, certain pieces, such as Christina Kloepfer's bronze bell and David Kaye's skirt, which has a distinctive scent, appeal to other senses as well.

### Non-disabled also enjoy show

The show has proven to be a rewarding experience for the non-handicapped as well as the disabled. Because of the design of the display cases, it is impossible to see and touch the works at the same time. This means non-disabled people briefly experience what it is like to be handicapped.

Several of the works will go on to personal or corporate collections when the exhibition closes. The bronze sculpture by Dora de Pedery-Hunt, for example, was purchased by the Royal Bank of Canada, while a brooch in sterling silver and gold by Judith Almond-Best was purchased by the Toronto French School for presentation to the Governor General of Canada.

## Canadian programs win Peabodys

Two Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) productions earned 1981 Peabody Awards for distinguished broadcasting at the annual ceremonies held recently in New York City.

*Carl Sandburg at Connemara*, a CBC Vancouver production, depicting the 22 years Sandburg spent at his North Carolina home won one of the awards, and *Klimbo: Le Lion et la Souris (The Lion and the Mouse)* produced by Société Radio-Canada in Montreal received a Peabody as an "outstanding example of televised programming for children".

The awards, named after industrialist and philanthropist, George Foster Peabody are administered by the University of Georgia School of Journalism and Mass Communications. The Peabody National Advisory Board comprised of communications personnel, educators, and public figures chose 25 winners from among 722 entries.

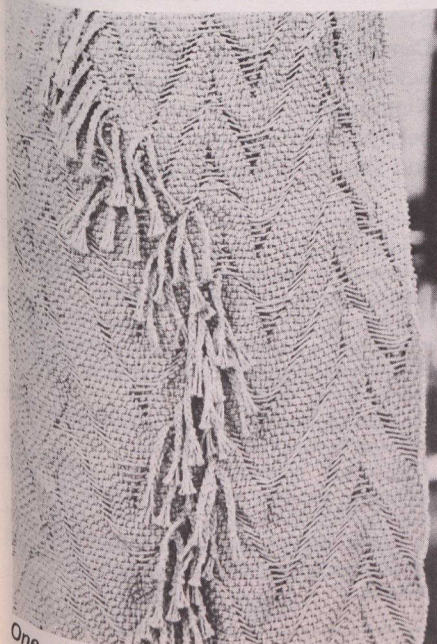
## Boost for Canadian poets and authors

The Canada Council has announced two new programs for writers and poets in Canada.

The programs are both extensions of the long-established program of public readings and are intended to provide access for Canadian writers to larger audiences within Canada and abroad.

The first program will provide opportunities for Canadian poets, fiction writers, playwrights, and children's writers to give public readings of their works in the United States. The council will pay the writer's reading fee of \$150, the host organization will provide accommodation, meals and publicity and both the council and sponsor will share the travel costs. Priority will be given to proposals which involve two or more readings in the U.S. by the same writer.

The second new program allows Canadian post-secondary institutions, galleries, museums and libraries to invite writers to their community for four- to ten-day residencies. In addition to giving readings the writer will read local writer's manuscripts and participate in formal and informal discussions. The council will pay two-thirds of the writer's stipend of \$150 a day plus travel and the host organization will pay the remainder of the stipend, accommodation and meals.



One of the textured weavings presented in the exhibition.