

CBC - looks at public sex

When sex came out of centuries-old shadows and went public, what happened, and why? How do you feel about it? What can we do about the important dilemmas raised by public sex?

Starting Wednesday, November 16, at 9:05 p.m. (9:35 Nfld.), CBC Radio's IDEAS examines sex's emergence from private spaces into a public market of prostitutes, pornographers, and therapists, where the tension between

pleasure and commitment is shaping a new view of sexuality. The Host is Lister Sinclair. Production is by Max Allan, and Executive Producer is Robert Prowse.

PUBLIC SEX was prepared by Varda Burstyn, Toronto writer and therapist, who will examine the many ways in which sex and sexuality have come to be represented commercially and acted out in public. In the first broadcast, November 16, about Illicit Trade, she takes listeners

on her own journey to New York's 42nd Street and surrounding territory, where sex is directly and explicitly for sale. There the stock-in-trade of the economy includes live-sex performances, peep shows, and prostitution of many varieties and for all sexual tastes and orientations. In discussions with performers and prostitutes, as well as through interviews with prostitutes' organizer Margo St. James, sex therapist Judith Golden, journalist Brenda Rabkin, sexual historian and author Edmund White, and radical feminist Susan Cole, the contradictory elements of this world are explored.

The November 23 program focuses on "Sex With Strangers". Ms. Burstyn points out that the mass media have responded to a greater social demand for sexual openness, and also manipulated the needs behind that demand to increase buying power and the consumer mentality. Sociologist Stewart Ewen discusses how industry manipulates our need for 'safety' in an urban society of strangers. Sociologist Judith Posner shares the in-

sights she's developed in a 10-year study of advertising. David Imber, a filmmaker and advertising consultant, talks about the nitty-gritty process of manipulation related to sexuality and advertising. Librarian Madeleine Aslto describes the enormous romance-novel industry and its growing sexualization. Barbara Ehrenreich talks about the rise of Playboy and Cosmopolitan magazines. The program ends with a discussion by Joanne Kates of the singles-bar scene, and Ian Lumsden compares that scene with the gay cruising bars.

The November 30 program is concerned with Sexual Objects. A 'legitimate' discourse on sexuality is developing. Sexology, sex therapy and sex education participate in the new needs and problems created by public sex. Toronto sex therapists David Stewart and Judith Golden talk about the kind of issues they deal with in their clinical practices. Shere Hite considers the way men and women confront the social contours of sexual possibilities.

Author and psychoanalyst Joel Kovel discusses the impact of public representations of sexuality on us, and the problems sexology has encountered in understanding and classifying sexual behavior. And sex educators Bonnie Bean and Barbara Johnston discuss the challenges confronting sex education in the 1980's.

The December 8 broadcast is concerned with Sexual Objects. What are the effects of censorship and obscenity legislation? What are the effects of legal attitudes and social programs related to prostitution? Does sex education work? Historian Jeffrey Weeks and film theorist Andrew Britton are joined in discussion by Joel Kovel, Edmund White, Shere Hite, Margo St. James, Bonnie Bean, Susan Cole, and Ian Lumsden. Canadian video artist Lisa Steele talks about sexual representations which could serve as alternatives to the ones now circulated in the mass media. Listeners are invited to examine the December issues of Playboy and Cosmopolitan magazines, which will be discussed in this program.

At the Woodshed this month

TUESDAY THROUGH TO FRIDAY 8 p.m. - 12 a.m.
FRIDAY & SATURDAY OPEN 'TIL 2 a.m.

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER

November 4 & 5 (Thurs. & Fri.) Graham Topp & Laurie Stacy

Nov. 8 - 12

Tuesday - Paul Lauzon (Dramatic Performance)
Wednesday - Open Stage
Thursday
Friday & Saturday - Paul Lauzon

Nov. 15 - 19

Tuesday - The Brunswick String Quartet (8:30 p.m.)
Wednesday - Open Stage
Thursday-Friday-Saturday - Marc Lulham & Paul Donat

Nov. 22 - 26

Tuesday & Wednesday - Gary Van Wart & Stephen Peacock "Classical Music"
Thursday - Special Drama Presentation
Friday - Geordie Haley
Saturday - TBA

Nov. 29 - Dec. 2

Tuesday - Lutia Lazon (Dramatic Performance)
Wednesday - Open Stage
Thursday - Saturday - TBA

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