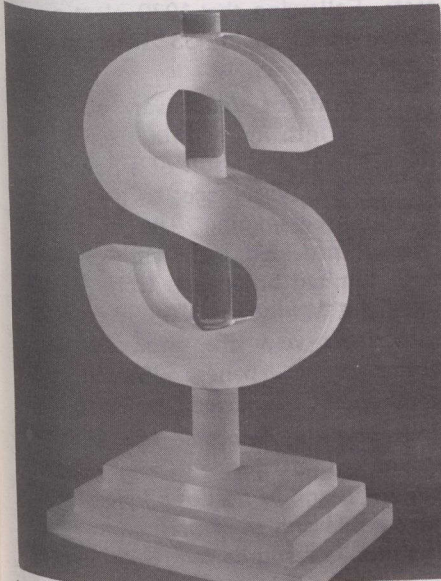


News of the arts

New exhibition on contemporary art dedicated to Canada Council

MANNERSsm: *A Theory of Culture*, held recently at the Vancouver Art Gallery was dedicated to the Canada Council which is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary year. (See *Canada Weekly* dated April 7, 1982.)

This new exhibition was concerned with the nature and place of today's art and its audience in a society in which artists are no longer the exclusive originators of visual communication.



Jim Gorman

Liquid Assets by *General Idea*.

Curator Jo-Anne Birnie Danzker, organizer of the exhibition said in a catalogue published for the exhibit: "I believe that all the work in this exhibition is committed to a subversive refusal of both established and stereotypic codes operating within the popular — and elite — culture, within the mass media, and certainly within the art world."

Mass media symbols reflected

Included in the exhibition were a number of recent works by artists who have adopted, manipulated and relocated the forms as well as the content of popular culture. Two and three dimensional works, produced both individually and in collaboration, reflected political, advertising, entertainment and television formats and stereotypes developed by the mass media.

Among the individual artists exhibiting were: David Buchan, Colin Campbell, Carol Conde and Karl Beveridge from Toronto; Eric Metcalfe and Mr. Peanut Vancouver Mayoralty Campaign from

Vancouver; Sherrie Levine from New York; Klaus Staeck from Germany; Nicole Gravier from France; and Fernando De Filippi from Italy. Two groups, General Idea of Toronto and Art and Language of England, were also represented.

Danzker pointed out in the catalogue, that while these artists do not constitute a group or an art movement, they offer points of comparison in the methodology concerning the nature and place of art.

"All the work marches the border between what it looks like, and what it is of. Consequently, it relies heavily on such 'fugitive' practices as parody, travesty, forgery, irony, mendacity and absurdity," she added.

The catalogue also proposes definitions of both MANNERSsm and MANNERst art and briefly considers recent theories and definitions of historical Mannerism.

Film wins award

The *Art of Worldly Wisdom*, a work by Toronto filmmaker Bruce Elder, has won the Los Angeles Film Critics Association special award in the experimental film category.

The film combines personal diaries, snapshots and scenes from movies, television and advertisements in an autobiographical exploration of mortality.

When it was first shown in Los Angeles in 1981, it was proclaimed "the key new experimental work to be seen in Los Angeles so far this year".

Children's festival to open

The First Bank International Children's Festival is scheduled for May 18-24 at Harbourfront in Toronto.

This major children's festival, featuring more than 100 performances by 15 companies from Canada and other countries, is being funded in part by the Bank of Montreal, the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Citizenship through Wintario, the Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council.

Harbourfront's program director and the artistic director of the festival, Roy Higgins, said he expects to earn back \$65 000 of the \$300 000 required for the festival, in box-office receipts.

The festival is being modelled after the four-year-old Vancouver Children's Festival, being held early in May. The Vancouver festival is also a co-producer of

the Harbourfront week.

Canadian entertainers involved in the Toronto festival include The Danny Grossman Dance Company, The Canadian Opera Company and a new play from John Gray and Eric Peterson, entitled *Bongo From The Congo*.

Participants from other countries include Czechoslovakia's Theatre Boleslav Polivka, Nationalteatern of Sweden, West Germany's Grips Theatre, Japan's Kaze No Ko and the Jacolly Puppet Theatre from England.

Arts briefs

The Bach Tercentary Festival Foundation of Edmonton, Alberta is already making preparations for the Tri-Bach festival to be held in 1985, the three-hundredth anniversary of the composer's birth. Sherburne McCurdy, president of Alberta College and president of the festival said plans were started early in order to secure outstanding groups and individuals. The foundation hopes to have the largest celebration of Johann Sebastian Bach in North America.

The city of Ottawa has set up a special phone line to provide bilingual information on the performing arts. Each day city staff compile the listing of performances set up for the day from information obtained from local arts groups.

Pierre Lamy, a Quebec film producer, has won the Air Canada Award for outstanding contributions to the business of film-making in Canada. He has produced *Kamouraska*, *Who Has Seen the Wind*, and *Les Deux Femmes en Or*. Previous winners were Bob and Vi Crone (1981) and George Destounis (1980).

The Canadian Images Film Festival was held recently in Peterborough. The annual event was opened by Ontario Lieutenant-Governor John Black Aird. Highlights of the four-day event included a program of international award-winning films, a major colloquium on women film-makers, and a series of seminars on the filming of performing arts.

The Canada-Belgium Literary Award for 1981, which is awarded in alternate years to French language writers in Canada and Belgium, has been received by Belgium novelist, poet and essayist Jacques-Gérard Linze in Quebec City. The prize is financed, on the Canadian side, by the Cultural Affairs Division: Arts Promotion of the Department of External Affairs and is administered by the Canada Council.