

FOUNDERS COLLEGE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WEEK LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Monday, January 29
to
Saturday, February 3, 1979

Founders College is pleased to announce a week of social and cultural activities designed to celebrate Latin America and the Caribbean and to offer York students a variety of insights into these areas. The activities will include lectures, films, a poetry recital, performances by Latin American musicians, an exhibition of works of art and crafts by Latin American and Caribbean artists, a Latin American/Caribbean dinner, a dance, and a performance of Derek Walcott's *Ti-Jean* and his Brothers.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DAY	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday, Jan. 29	12:00-2:00	"Fidel" a feature-length colour	Founders 202B (Viewing Room)
Tuesday, Jan. 30	12:00-2:00	Film: Three Views of Indian life in Latin America: "Appeals to Santiago" "Highland Indians of Peru" "To Find our Life".	Founders 202B (Viewing Room)
Wed., Jan. 31	12:00-2:00	Film: "The Harder They Come" Music by Jimmy Cliff.	Founders 202B (Viewing Room)
	4:00-6:00	Poetry recital by Professors Margarita Stein and Michael L. Kay of York's Dept. of Languages.	Founders Senior Common Room (coffee and cookies provided)
Jan. 31	7:30-12:00	C. & B. Pub. Latin American & Caribbean night	
Feb. 1.	12:00-2:00	Film: "Antonio das Mortes" Feature film on outlaws & violence in Brazil in the 1940's	Founders 202B (Viewing Room)
	3:00-5:00	Lecture by Prof. Larissa Lomnitz, Professor of Anthropology at the Universidad Autonoma (Mexico City) "Student politics in Latin American universities".	Founders Senior Common Room
Thursday, Feb. 1	7:00-10:00	Music by three Latin American groups: El Grupo Ilantú (Chile) La Familia Filici (Argentina) El Grupo Victor Jara (Chile)	Founders Senior Common Room
Friday, Feb. 2	12:00-1:00	Film: "Buenos días Compañeros" - a view of women's role in contemporary Cuba.	Founders 202B (Viewing Room)
	1:00-2:30	Lecture by Prof. Russell Chace Jr. - York Dept. of History "Canadians in Mexico 1890-1910/15"	Founders Senior Common Room
	3:00-5:00	Social Hour for all interested people.	Founders Senior Common Room
	5:30-7:00	Latin American and Caribbean dinner	Founders Dining Hall
	7:30-10:00	Play by Derek Walcott "Ti-Jean and his Brothers"	Founders Junior Common Room
Saturday, Feb. 3	8:30-12:00	Dance. Music by the Stetones and by the York Tonies Steel Band.	Founders Dining Hall

The Cock and Bull (Founders Pub) will also feature Latin American and Caribbean music all week, and a one-night extravaganza featuring special drinks, limbo contest etc. January 31st - 7:30-12:00.

Hearing them out at Radio York

By Gord Graham
The more things change, the more they stay the same.

Like any adage, this pithy saying originated thousands of miles and centuries distant from this clearing in the blustery snows of Downview called York. And like any good adage, it continued to sum up the present.

The more things change at Radio York, for example, the more they stay the same. The faces are all new, but a similar recurrent pattern continues to surface.

In its ten year history, Radio York (CKRY) has spent perhaps \$100,000 of student money. In return, it has taught several hundred students how to cue records, launched a handful of them into commercial radio career, and chased an ever-elusive FM broadcast license.

In the meantime, a lot of the minor details of running the operation have been overlooked; like paying bills, finding an audience, developing worthwhile programming. The station touched bottom in 1977 — after a year most want to forget — in a state politely called "financial disaster." One time station manager Richard Gould has chased the FM dream hard, meanwhile making some "unusual expenditures" and accumulating a \$13,000 debt.

Of this, \$9,000 was a long-standing bill for renovations to the Vanier offices of the station. CYSF has since cleared up this charge, negotiating to repay \$5,000 over two years while the university writes off \$4,000.

Memories of Gould are not all bitter: present CKRY manager Steve Rimmer recalls that "some say he kept the place alive for a year — we have a fantastic record library and a lot of good equipment that was donated because Richard went after it."

But in Gould's wake, CYSF "jumped in with both feet," said Doug Wise, CYSF, business manager, "and now all the bills come through us."

"It was CYSF's position that we inherit the sins of our predecessors," said manager Rimmer, "but CYSF was largely responsible for the situation we're in now. We're not in a position to be a campus radio station per se, instead we're a place where people come and learn how to make radio. But if CYSF had worked with Radio York a couple of years ago, we'd be a lot more than a free radio course right now. Somewhere along the line, someone should have pulled the plug, on Gould and asked what was going on."

CYSF President David Chodikoff doesn't sidestep the barb. "I can't answer for the previous two years — CYSF was too busy with internal political issues, and did not maintain a balance between political leadership and certain administrative responsibilities."

Chodikoff claims he drove himself "batty" investigating the past nine years of Radio York. "And we've bent over backwards, we've tried everything to help them this year. We have no intention of playing Big Brother in terms of policy. But over nine years they've shown they're irresponsible with money. Now we'll control the books until they can prove they can manage their finances again."

It's a dash of reality Rimmer finds distasteful, despite his admission that "Radio York has a godawful reputation right now." But, in fact, the station is rarely on anybody's mind — or in their ears for that matter.

CKRY is distributed solely by wires running to various speaker boxes scattered across the campus. Most are in a state of disrepair, and the few that do squeak out a sound are hopelessly drowned out by the commotion of busy crowds during



Dominic Magisano, CKRY music director

the day.

"We've got one really good speaker in the lobby of Vanier," jokes Rimmer, "that works almost all the time." Until now, the station has been powerless to even repair their own speakers — which are rented from an outside company, Western Telegraph and Telecommunications, in a contract that forbids CKRY from doing any repairs.

"That's one of our problems," notes Rimmer, "when our speakers are so bloody shitty that there's very few places on campus where you can make out the words, it gets absurd to spend a couple hours putting together a show when you realize nobody's going to hear it."

"Western put in a system that's fallen apart around our ears," he adds, "and they haven't done anything about it. We took a complete survey of the system in the fall and it was in awful shape."

Excalibur's own recent survey showed that Radio York was audible in less than one third of the most likely areas for students to gather around the campus: dining halls, common rooms, coffeeshops, pubs. The station fared particularly badly in student pubs and coffeeshops, where nine out of eleven never listened to CKRY, one more, The Cock and Bull, did so only "periodically."

The Western contract charged the company with maintaining the system up to certain specifications, but the station and CYSF have never been satisfied with its upkeep.

Western's Joel Eves blames "student vandalism" for the silent speakers. "We've had much more trouble with our assets at York than at any other university we've been involved with — Guelph, Western, U of T, Erindale and Scarborough... I don't know whether they don't like the programming or are just frustrated, but they just tear it apart. We've lost money every year because it turned out to be a lot more maintenance than we bargained for."

Rimmer counters that "the things that have been going the most are the amplifiers, which are locked away in maintenance rooms where students don't even know about them. If you look at the speakers they're all intact, there's just nothing driving them."

Western's contract stretched for six years, from 1973 to October next fall at \$2500 a year. But CYSF has recently offered to buy the speakers and connecting wires from Western, for a sum "considerably less than the two years' rent," according to Chodikoff.

Nowadays it's his passionate determination to write plays that take risks, and leave naturalism and realism to tv and films, which is keeping his plays off some stages.

He drew laughter when he said the Stratford festival ought to want to do it but I can't.... the audience won't understand it. It's the CBC mentality, that's what we're facing."

by attaching their cable input to their FM tuners.

The only stipulation is that stations carry no advertising. For Radio York, this would be a small sacrifice — paid ads have amounted to less than \$200 income so far this year, according to CKRY business manager Kris Banerjee.

Rimmer has already approached several cable companies, and received "very positive" response from the Graham and Willowdowns systems, who are both willing to negotiate about providing the station with the required FM modulator. Negotiations are reportedly proceeding with the Rogers and Metro systems as well.

The whole cost of this distribution a far cry from Gould's dreams of a \$100,000 a year FM operation — would be \$35 a month for renting a Bell line to the cable company, says Rimmer.

"Morale around the station is good with the prospect of going on cable."

Obviously most of the people who go here don't live here, so this would be designed for York students living off campus," added Rimmer.

"Our engineer is wrapping up the final forms for the application now," he said, "and it should happen in about a month. This is so insignificant in the great scheme of things within the CRTC that there probably won't even be a hearing about it — it's almost certain to go right through."

How would this affect Radio York — which, after all, was already on both Rogers and Willowdowns Cable three years ago but was pulled off by the CRTC? Going back on cable won't affect CKRY's present programming staff, says Rimmer, "because the cable companies are interested in having the station represent York to the outside community."

The more things change... Another prospect held out for Radio York is amalgamation with Radio Glendon, a tight, uniquely alternative station already on Rogers and Metro cable, and on carrier current through Glendon's campus. Radio Glendon built a new \$25,000 recording studio last year, financed mostly by donations, corporate and governmental. The station is incorporated with full time

managers, and — could you guess? — the ubiquitous FM application on the horizon.

A report produced a year ago by Radio Glendon's manager Alan Lysaght and colleague Hugh Mappin pinpointed their concerns with Radio York's operation. They say the station's problems are rooted in "unrealistic aims, and a misguided approach to development, namely that a licence will solve their problems; lack of technical knowledge... practically non-existent distribution system; no definite programming philosophy; and of course 'gross mismanagement of funds.'" In the year since, there has been some concrete improvement — but only on the last count.

"We've discussed amalgamation for years" said Lysaght recently, "but we've never had any cooperation from them. They have such a large turnover of staff... and have seemed to miss the concept of providing an alternative programming to what you can get all day long on CHUM and Q107. There's an incredible number of things at the main campus we'd like to get — guest lectures, the whole faculty of Fine Arts, the music, theatre, scientific and academic areas — but we've had to go there and get it ourselves, and from 15 miles away that's difficult."

Rimmer feels his station will lose in any merger. "I understand Radio Glendon has a record library that would fit into one milk crate," he said, "and if we amalgamated, they'd get our library, they'd take it away, they'd get basically everything in our offices right now, and they'd give us their brand new 16-channel production board so we could play tape jocks. This would just be a feed-in to a Bell line from here."

"Our library is undeniably small, confirmed Lysaght, "but that's because we haven't been building it nearly as long as Radio York. Also we're more selective, we keep weeding it out, throwing out a lot of the commercial stuff." He estimated their library at 1000 records, to Radio York's 6,000.

"We'd love their library, but we don't want any of their equipment. They do have the resources to do

production, and that's what we envisioned — in fact they made the suggestion to us several years ago," Lysaght added. "But all the programs they were willing to send us were commercial, three hours of Carly Simon and Dan Hill that we didn't want."

Some observers say that the CRTC would never give two FM licenses to the same university — and there are precious few spots left anywhere on Toronto FM band.

"Sometime down the path, we'll have to build some kind of amalgamation" says York's vice-president of student affairs John Becker, "so that students on this campus will have the chance to work on a FM station. My feeling is that Glendon is strong enough and capable enough to pull it off — they tend to steal Radio York's thunder once in a while."

"If Radio York was all by itself and in its present state," he added, "I don't think any student on this campus could look for the possibility of ever working on campus FM."

"In the past, Radio York has been way up on Cloud Nine," agrees CYSF business manager Doug Wise, "they're afraid they'd be low man on the totem pole compared with Glendon. But right now, Radio York is really just a caretaking operation."

Others disagree. "I don't think our survival depends on Glendon," says CKRY music director Dominiq Magisano. "I'd be interested in talking with them... but we're dealing with our own problems this year. We've had to work with the little we had, trying to prove ourselves, and I think we're starting to now."

With all their funds — and soon their speakers — under CYSF control, the station will have to prove itself soon, to survive. CYSF president Chodikoff hopes to have "the Radio York situation solved" before the end of his term in April — which to him means "all the bills paid, the books here, the operation there, negotiations with Glendon reopened and them both working on joint projects and exchanging tapes."

He adds ominously, "Radio York is going to have to shape up awfully quick."

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Playwright blasts theatre managers

By Paul Stuart

During his Monday appearance at Calumet College in this week's creative writing discussion series, playwright George Walker was the archetype of the frustrated Canadian artist, who's had it up to the collar of his battered leather jacket with the endless obstacles strewn in his path by the administrators of Canadian theatre, whom he obviously considers nearsighted mediocrities.

Despondency kept seeping into his voice so often that you knew it wasn't simply a reaction to the poor review his new play *Filthy Rich*, at (Toronto Free Theatre) got in the *Globe* on Monday morning.

He recalled how near the beginning of his nine year career — which has produced, among an impressive number of plays, *Zastrozzi*, and *Ramona & the White Slaves* — "people used to think we should write about 'our roots' — well they're not mine — I don't know anything about Saskatchewan or Newfoundland."

Nowadays it's his passionate determination to write plays that take risks, and leave naturalism and realism to tv and films, which is keeping his plays off some stages.

He drew laughter when he said the Stratford festival ought to want to do it but I can't.... the audience won't understand it. It's the CBC mentality, that's what we're facing."

"I talked to the artistic director of a large American regional theatre recently," he told the attentive gathering in the Calumet common room, "and he said, 'I read your play, I liked it a lot, I want to do it.' I was talking to a Canadian artistic director last week who said, 'I love your play, I

consider putting new Canadian plays 'on the river' and let them sail by on a boat, if the third, fourth or fifth stage wasn't available. The audience seemed a little aghast when he told that the last time the Manitoba Theatre Centre 'did a Canadian play they put it on second stage and it was outselling Shakespeare — so they closed it.'"

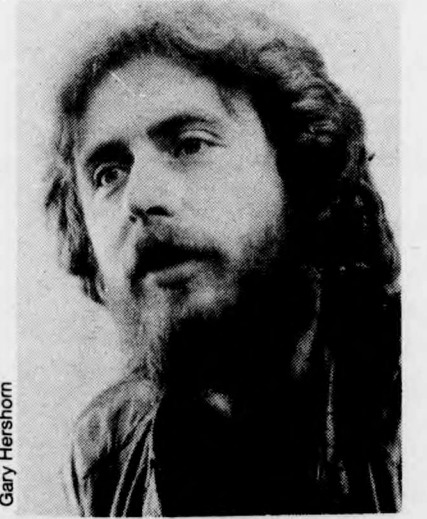
At one point he asked the audience in exasperation:

"Are we a timid, unadventurous, people? Do we lack entrepreneurs?"

For Walker, the Toronto theatre scene needs someone like Ed Mirvish to "open a string of theatres on King St., get the bright lights and draw the tourists."

Another boost for Canadian theatre would be for the government to "come down on the regional theatres so hard it would make their heads swim. I'd like to see quotas. I'd like to see them close the Manitoba theatre centre if they don't do on Canadian play a year."

Throughout most of the session Walker was a devastating critic of what is happening to the dramatic arts in this country; it was after the session ended, chatting with a couple of theatre students that he



George Walker

Here's Your Chance to Look at the

McGill MBA Program

Considering an MBA? You should. And you should take a close look at everything McGill has to offer. Presentations (talk and slides) will be given on

Tuesday, January 30th
12:00, 1:00 and 2:00 pm
Curtis Lecture Hall B
Ross Building