

The Canadian Foundation in Rome, whose chairman is the Ambassador to Italy, offered major fellowships to the composer Serge Garant, the painter Claude Tousignant, and the Galileo Scholar William Shea for a year's study in Italy. It also sponsored concerts in Rome and Venice of the National Arts Centre Orchestra during its European tour.

Programs and planning

Canada has cultural agreements with Belgium, France and Italy. It also has a General Exchanges Agreement with the U.S.S.R. that contains a number of articles dealing with cultural questions. The Programs and Planning Section is concerned with planning programs with these countries as well as with countries with which cultural relations are less formal. These are arranged through formal machinery such as mixed commissions (as, for example, that with France, which met in Ottawa in April), as well as through normal diplomatic channels. Active programs are conducted with Belgium, China, Finland, France, Germany, Britain, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the Soviet Union. Occasional activities and exchanges are organized in or with other countries.

This section is also responsible for administering exchanges of cultural personalities. During 1973, the program again included a visit of six graduates of the National School of Administration of France, who, in addition to briefings in Ottawa, were given a tour of Canada. This is in exchange for three places given to Canadians at the School for a year's study. It was also responsible for arranging a recital tour across Canada of the Soviet poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko as part of a first exchange of writers between the two countries.

The section also negotiated an agreement with China calling for an annual exchange of 20 students. As the section responsible for those aspects of Canada's scientific relations with France under the Cultural Agreement, it co-ordinated plans for an exchange of missions in the areas of agriculture, health and welfare, communications, energy and environment, designed to determine possible areas of co-operation. The National Research Council continued to administer on behalf of the Department a small program of grants to French researchers in Canada.

Artistic exchanges

The Artistic Exchanges Section is responsible for foreign tours by Canadian artists and performing arts companies, visual arts exhibitions, cultural weeks, book presentations, etc.

Increased funds have been provided to enable Canadian performing-arts groups to tour other countries. In 1973, the following groups received grants to allow them to travel abroad: the Stratford National Theatre (Denmark,

the Netherlands, Poland, the U.S.S.R.), Coad Canada Puppets (Brazil), the Factory Theatre Lab (Britain), La Compagnie des Deux Chaises (France), The Moving Theatre (Germany), the Anna Wyman Dance Theatre (Germany), the Lyric Arts Trio (France, Ireland), the Orford String Quartet (France), Le Jazz Libre au Quebec (Italy and Switzerland), the Purcell String Quartet (Britain), the National Arts Centre Orchestra (France, Britain, Italy, Poland, the U.S.S.R.), the McGill Chamber Orchestra (Switzerland).

The Department's permanent collections of Canadian graphics were shown in some 17 countries. As a result of further acquisitions, the Department will be able to circulate abroad in the near future eight to ten collections of such works.

In addition to its travelling collections, the Department, in conjunction with the Canada Council, subsidized a major exhibition in Paris of contemporary Canadian art entitled "Trajectoires 1973", which enjoyed a remarkable success. The Cultural Centre in Paris held exhibitions of the works of Guido Molinari (Sérigraphs), Canadian West Coast Hennesics and a solo exhibition of the most recent works of Claude Tousignant. The Cultural Centres in Paris, Brussels and London regularly present exhibitions of Canadian artists, in collaboration either with the National Gallery or with other galleries and museums in Canada.