

News of the arts

Frances Hyland directs Othello

Canadian actress-director Frances Hyland will direct the Stratford Festival's 1979 production of Shakespeare's *Othello*. This will be Miss Hyland's first assignment as a director for the Festival although she has appeared often as a leading lady on the Festival stage in such roles as Ophelia, Portia, Desdemona, Perdita in *The Winter's Tale* and Isabella in *Measure for Measure*.



Frances Hyland



Robert C. Ragsdale

Scene from Stratford's *Richard II*, directed this year by Zoe Caldwell.

An Officer of the Order of Canada who also holds two honorary doctorates from Canadian universities, she has given distinguished performances at many theatres across Canada and in England and the United States. Last summer she appeared in two productions for the Shaw Festival. Other recent acting assignments include *Night of the Iguana* at the Citadel Theatre and a new play at the Centaur Theatre, *The Winter Dancers*. She has

also recently made a film, *The Changeling* with George C. Scott.

Othello will feature Alan Scarfe in the title role, with Domini Blythe as Desdemona and Nicholas Pennell as Iago.

Miss Hyland is the second noted actress to return to the Festival this year in a new capacity as a director. Zoe Caldwell, who has also starred in Stratford productions, is directing Shakespeare's *Richard II*.

Ballet to Cyprus festival

The Alberta Ballet Company has been chosen as the first North American ballet to perform at the International Festival of the Arts at Limassol, Cyprus, in July.

Since its inception early in this decade, the festival has attracted some of Europe's best troupes, including the Bolshoi Ballet, the Kirov Ballet and the Georgian State Dancers.

The Alberta Ballet has special links with Cyprus through principal dancer and choreographer Lambros Lambrou. The 23-year-old Lambrou is considered to be the leading dancer from Cyprus.

"I couldn't believe it when I heard the news," he said. "I'm already nervous. My family and teachers and everyone will be out. I'm going to be criticized by all."

Also appearing at Limassol this year will be the Malincorne French Classical Orchestra, and two leading dancers from the Czechoslovakian National Ballet, Vlastimil Haraees and Hanna Vachilova.

Magazines share top honours

Three Canadian magazines shared top honours at the second annual National Magazine Awards dinner held in Toronto on April 20.

The awards for outstanding achievement in 1978 were given to *MacLean's*, *Owl* and *Quebec Science*: *Maclean's* for its successful transformation into a weekly newsmagazine, *Owl* a children's magazine, for its editorial and artistic excellence and 50 percent increase in circulation, and *Quebec Science* for its pre-eminent position in its field. Last year's winner was *Harrowsmith*, the journal of rural living published near Kingston.

The President's Medal of the University of Western Ontario, for best general magazine article, went to Robert Collins of *Reader's Digest* for his article on the crash of the Soviet satellite in Northern Canada, and to Pierre Dupont of *L'Actualité* for a story on the Post Office.

Arts briefs

Mavor (James) Moore has been appointed chairman of the Canada Council. Professor of theatre at Toronto's York University, Mr. Moore has been actively involved in the arts as actor, writer, producer and drama critic. He has been a producer for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and was once attached to the information division at the United Nations in New York. He was Governor of the National Theatre School for 13 years and the founder and director of the Charlottetown Festival. Mr. Moore received the Order of Canada in 1973 and was awarded the Centennial Medal; he has also won three Peabody Awards.

Mad Shadows, a work created by Ann Ditchburn two years ago for the National Ballet, is now being filmed for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's *Musi-camera* series next autumn. The ballet, based on a novel by Marie Claire Blais, with music by André Gagnon, is a nostal-