

Renowned singer makes first Canadian concert tour



Joan Patenaude-Yarnell

Internationally acclaimed Canadian soprano Joan Patenaude-Yarnell is currently making her first concert tour of Canada.

The tour, sponsored by the Touring Office of the Canada Council, marks the first time the Touring Office has subsidized the concert tour of a solo artist.

Miss Patenaude-Yarnell's program is based on her three-record series *Songs of Great Opera Composers* which she has presented on her five international concert tours since 1979. Music by Verdi, Bizet, Tchaikowsky and Rossini is included.

Last season, at the invitation of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, Miss Patenaude-Yarnell became the third Canadian singer invited to appear throughout Australia. She has also appeared twice throughout the Orient and Eastern Europe and in 1983 she will be performing for the first time in Israel.

Grants for historic objects

Communications Minister Francis Fox recently announced grants totalling \$252 257 to museums, galleries and libraries across Canada to purchase rare objects related to Canada's heritage.

The largest grant, totalling \$88 000 was given to the Montreal Military and Maritime Museum to purchase a double-barrelled flintlock fowling gun manufactured by Jean Lepage, an official gunsmith to Napoleon. The gun was bought in 1809 by the Marquis de Montcalm, son of the French general who died in the battle on the Plains of Abraham.

The National Library of Canada in

Ottawa received \$56 447 to purchase the manuscripts of the first Peace Tower carillonneur, Percival Price, a book of coloured sketches depicting military operations during the 1837 rebellion in Lower Canada (Quebec) and a rare serandite crystal specimen from Mont-Saint-Hilaire, Quebec.

A grant of \$37 000 was given to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto to purchase a historic watercolour and \$21 780 to the British Columbia Provincial Museum in Victoria to buy a Kwakiutl cannibal bird mask.

Smaller grants went to institutions in Fredericton, Vancouver, St. John's, Quebec City, Yellowknife, Calgary and Sackville, New Brunswick.

Country music awards

The Family Brown, a country music group from Ottawa, recently won four of eight categories in the first annual Academy of Country Music Entertainment Awards.

The awards were presented as the climax to Country Music Week celebrations in the Halifax-Dartmouth, Nova Scotia area. They are voted on by the 600 academy members and replace the Big Country Awards of the past seven years.

Three of the awards won by The Family Brown were: Vocal Group of the Year, for the seventh consecutive year;

Album of the Year for *Raised on Country Music* and Single of the Year for *Some Never Stand a Chance*. In addition, the group was presented with the most prestigious country music award, Entertainer of the Year, for the second year in a row. The band's lead vocalist and songwriter Barry Brown also won the Song of the Year award for *Some Never Stand a Chance*.

Other winners were: Carroll Baker as Female Vocalist of the Year for the sixth time; Terry Carisse as Male Vocalist of the year for the third consecutive time; and Ruth Ann as Newcomer of the Year.



The Family Brown took four prizes at the recent awards.