

Liona Boyd

## A flair for brilliance

LIONA BOYD

Canada's foremost guitarist, Liona Boyd, has been receiving widespread acclaim since her introduction to large concert audiences a few years ago. The New York Times praised her "flair for brilliance" and the Ottawa Journal wrote that she displayed "Some of the finest classical guitar playing anywhere, and likely the best in N. America."

Liona has toured in several European countries and has concertized in most of the major cities of North America, with performances in theatres from Carnegie Recital Hall (New York) to the Amphitheatre (Los Angeles.) She has also taken her instrument to such remote areas as the Yukon, and with her concerts and workshops has won thousands of new friends for the classical guitar across the continent. Her solo and orchestral appearances have sold out concert halls, and she is a frequent performer on radio and television.

Liona's debut recording "Classical Guitar — Liona Boyd" CS7015 (London Records) and "The Guitar" B.M.C. 3002 elicited such comments from the press as "The guitar discovery of the decade" Winnipeg Tribune and "Nothing short of fantastic . . . Liona takes one's breath away" Denver Post. Her records have sold with unprecedented success in both the classical and popular markets. The Canadian Music Industry nominated her for a Juno award as "best instrumentalist of the year", several international composers have dedicated their works to her, and she has been invited to play for such distinguished persons as the Prime Minister of Canada.

In addition to her solo concerts, Liona has recently been touring with Gordon Lightfoot, and playing to audiences averaging 10,000 people each night. In this way she is breaking new ground as a classical guitarist and "turning on" many young people to her style of guitar playing. Liona maintains a very busy



schedule of extensive touring, recording, researching her music, and transcribing new works to expand the guitar repertoire. Her own distinctive style combines a brilliant virtuoso technique with sensitive tonal variation and interpretive maturity.

Liona was born in London, England but has spent most of her life in Canada. She began her study of the classical guitar at the age of 14 with Eli Kassner in Toronto. In 1972 she graduated with honours from the University of Toronto's Music Faculty where

she received her Bachelor of Music degree in Performance, and in the same year placed first for guitar in the Canadian National Music Competition. She has studied with most of the world's top guitarists; Julian Bream, Narciso Yepes, Alirio Diaz and Alexandre Lagoya. The latter invited her to study privately with him in Paris where she spent over a year. Lagoya called her "one of my most brilliant students". Christopher Parkening wrote "one of the most excellent guitarists I have heard" and Alirio Diaz wrote "I predict

that she will become one of the most distinguished artists of the classical guitar."

Liona Boyd will be appearing January 7, 8:15 p.m. at The Playhouse. Tickets are FREE to UNB and STU students and may be picked up until Dec. 6 along with tickets to "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Also tickets for Liona Boyd may be picked up the week before her performance. They may be obtained at the SUB Info Booth, the Arts Centre and the Residence Centre.

National Exhibition Centre

## Acadian life depicted in carvings

Two displays highlighting New Brunswick's Acadian heritage are currently on view at the National Exhibition Centre. Pioneer furnishings from the Village Historique Acadien in Caraquet provide the realistic touch, while a collection of wood carvings offers a somewhat freer interpretation.

Perhaps it's a hold-over from early childhood. When the world around us seems much too large in relation to our small selves and we turn our attention instead to toys which bring things down to a size range we can cope with. Whatever the reason, most of us remain fascinated by disproportion -- by everyday objects shrunk or enlarged beyond their normal dimensions. And so it is that exhibits like the Gagne/Bujold miniature wood sculptures are small in scale but decidedly large in popular appeal.

These carvings -- forty-five in all -- depict the life of the early Acadian settler. They have been deftly made with the simplest of tools (an ordinary pocket knife, fretsaw, hammer, wood chisel, hatchet and drill) -- so the only magic ingredients have been a great deal of patience, resourcefulness and keen recollection of detail on the part of Edmundston craftsman Patrick Gagne.

Mr. Gagne became involved in this craft during a period of his life spent as a TB patient in a convalescent home. The materials for his work were furnished, together with strong encouragement of his endeavours, by Mr. Roger Bujold, who acts as agent for the collection, and who has also had hand in painting the pieces.

From the success of a few first figures whittled primarily as a pastime grew the ambitious

notion of depicting a whole Acadian settlement's daily round of activity. By that act of faith, Mr. Gagne has furnished a colourful expression of folk history which helps to evoke the spirit of a vanished era. It is the intention of the two that the carvings be sold collectively -- indeed it is a point of genuine concern for them that this "family" of works remain intact.

The little world that has been pulled together out of wood fragments, yarn, bits of harness, bristles and plaster is simple and rough-hewn. But it captures the essence of the commonplace scenes it recalls, and gains a certain charm by avoiding the slickness of more polished surfaces and postures. The overall result is a certain toy-like quality and a freshness of vision that speaks clearly to children and those who work closely with the young. The settlers' daily involvement with farm and forest is represented in a number of small tableaux. Buildings are also depicted, and the occasional house interior is suggested as well. Farm animals figure prominently in the collection, too, as they did in the lives of the pioneers. But perhaps most interesting is the way in which the time element finds its way into the presentation. Besides the seasonal cycle which, of course, is ever-present in the thoughts of a people bound so closely to the land, there are references to the stages of an individual's life -- such as: the undertaker's somber wagon and team of black horses.

This imaginative attempt to show something of the lifestyle of the Acadian pioneers is paired with a very carefully documented exhibition of authentic furniture

from this period of New Brunswick's storied past. It is to be hoped that the National Exhibition Centre's presentation of "L'Acadienne Acadie" will draw visitors of all ages and origins who consider this province's history and culture things of real significance.

Winter gallery hours at the National Exhibition Centre (John Thurston Clark Memorial Building, corner of Queen and Carleton

Streets) are:

Monday - Thursday, 12 noon - 4 p.m.  
Friday - 12 noon - 9 p.m.  
Saturday - 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday - 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Admission is free of charge and everyone is welcome.

A special reminder: staff from the Acadian Village will be on hand December 13th and 14th to talk about the furniture on display

and to give pointers about care and refinishing of antiques. On December 7th through 10th they will demonstrate cloth-making as it was practised by pioneer women.

Schools and special interest groups are welcomed, but it is requested that they book tour appointments in advance by contacting exhibit centre animatrice, Mrs Marilyn Noble, at 453-3747.

## CHSR - Top 30

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|---|---|--|
| 1)) Calling Occupants - Carpenters (1)                | 19) Runaway - Bonnie Raitt (15)                             | (16)                                       |
| 2) Slip Slidin' Away - Paul Simon (4)                 | 20) Thunder In My Heart - Leo Sayer (23)                    | 25) A Place In The Sun - Pablo Cruise (18) |
| 3) You Light Up My Life - Debby Boone (3)             | 21) Angie Baby - Alan O'Day (12)                            | 26) Blue Bayou - Linda Ronstadt (21)       |
| 4) We're All Alone - Rita Coolidge (8)                | 22) Turn to Stone - ELO (-)                                 | 27) You're In My Heart - Rod Stewart (-)   |
| 5) Baby What A Big Surprise - Chicago (2)             | 23) Brick House - Commodores (19)                           | 28) Hard times - Boz Scaggs (24)           |
| 6) Money Money Money - Abba (10)                      | 24) It's Ecstasy When You Lay Down Next To Me - Barry White | 29) Love Gun - Kiss (28)                   |
| 7) We Just Disagree - Dave Mason                      |   | 30) Time Bomb - Lake (25)                  |
| 8) Do your Dance - Rose Royce (9)                     |   |  |
| 9) Nobody Does It Better - Carly Simon (7)            |   |  |
| 10) Come Sail Away - Styx (13)                        |   |  |
| 11) You Make Loving Fun - Fleetwood Mac (11)          |   |  |
| 12) So You Win Again - Hot Chocolate (22)             |   |  |
| 13) Signed, Sealed, Delivered - Peter Frampton (5)    |   |  |
| 14) Your Smiling Face - James Taylor (14)             |   |  |
| 15) Gone Too Far - England Dan & John Ford Coley (26) |   |  |
| 16) Another Star - Stevie Wonder (6)                  |   |  |
| 17) She's Not There - Santana (-)                     |   |  |
| 18) Crying In My Sleep - Art Garfunkel (20)           |   |  |

## Craft sale

The Annual Christmas Choice Craft Sale will be held Sunday afternoon December 4th from noon to 5 p.m. We will have all of the Memorial Hall Auditorium filled with displays, overflowing into both Art Centre Galleries.

At the same time the two galleries are hung with work by local artists. This exhibition will continue until December 15, open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. from Monday to Friday, and from 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Over twenty craftsmen will be

showing pottery, batik, weaving, jewellery, toys, enamelling, pewter and macrame. Paintings, drawings, prints and fabric hangings by thirty-two Fredericton and area artists will fill the Studio and Gallery.

Most of the exhibitors will be familiar to regular Fredericton gallery-goers, but there are several exhibiting here for the first time in New Brunswick. Some are professional artists, others are devoted amateurs trained in art schools and eager to become known in the local art scene.