

News of the arts

OAC exhibition in Paris and London

We Amongst Others, an exhibition organized by the Ontario Arts Council, visited the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris in January and arrives in London, at the Canada House Gallery, on March 15. Some of the 21 modules representing the work of 21 artists from Ontario are seen below. Artists had the opportunity to record interviews, and arrange symbols and objects in order to communicate their views to the visitors. The group includes actresses, writers, dancers, painters, sculptors, musicians and photographers — among them, Margaret Atwood, Frances Hyland, Veronica Tennant, Mavor Moore, Dennis Burton, Robertson Davies, Yousef Karsh and Dwight Bennett.



Chinese peasant paintings

Flying snow, welcome spring, a painting to match the season, is on view, for the first time with 76 other remarkable gouache paintings by Chinese peasant artists, at the National Gallery in Ottawa from February 17 until March 19.

Peasant Paintings from Hu County: Shensi Province, which includes works by many of the artists who first exhibited at the Peking Art Museum in 1973, will be circulated to galleries in Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Nova Scotia and Ontario after the Ottawa showing.

The many changes that have taken place in China over the past 30 years are depicted cheerfully in these paintings. This new energy and identity is reflected in the titles of the works, such as *New*



Ma Ya-li's Political tutor from *Peasant Paintings from Hu County*.

Village, new spirit; It's our turn to guard the grain at lunchtime and *The new look of our piggery*. Wang Yung-yi, the artist of the last-named work, says: "This piggery impressed me greatly. When it was finished I did this painting. We have 68 sties and seven people working there including a pig doctor. The people's commune has urged all brigades to learn from

our pigsty construction — a big meeting was held for this purpose. I was so happy to see many comrades coming from other places to see our work; this made me want to do this painting."

Arts briefs

A National Film Board feature documentary about the FLQ crisis in Quebec in October 1970, was shown recently by more than 200 stations of the Public Broadcasting Service in the United States. The 80-minute film called *Action*, seen on CBC-TV two years ago, has been updated with a 12-minute segment reviewing events that have taken place since the film was first completed, giving American viewers a better perspective of Canadian current events relating to the unity crisis. *Action*, directed by Robin Spry, took the Grand Prize at Nyon, Switzerland, and a Silver Plaque in 1975 at the Chicago International Film Festival.

Walter Learning, artistic director and general manager of Theatre New Brunswick in Fredericton, will replace David Peacock as head of the theatre section of the Canada Council. In collaboration with Alden Nowlan, Mr. Learning has written three plays since 1976 and produced them at Theatre New Brunswick, which he founded in 1969.



Chang Fang-hsia's *It's our turn to guard the grain at lunchtime*.