

News of the arts

Canadian heads new arts and conference centre in London

The newly-opened Barbican Arts and Conference Centre is headed by Canadian Henry Wrong and one of its first exhibitions is Canadian.

Construction began on the centre 20 years ago and Wrong was engaged 12 years ago to administer the centre.

Arts management career

For the past 30 years, Wrong has pursued a career in arts management in the United States, Britain and Canada.

After graduating from the University of Toronto in 1952, he joined the Metropolitan Opera in New York as an assistant to Rudolf Bing. Some of his duties included the planning of the Lincoln Centre which became the opera hall for the Metropolitan.

He came to Ottawa in 1964 to help plan the National Arts Centre and remained there as head of programming

until 1969. During the Canadian centennial celebrations in 1967, Wrong was involved in Festival Canada which for the first time presented 33 Canadian and foreign performing arts companies across Canada.

One of the highlights of the opening of the Barbican Centre was an exhibition of Canadian tapestries.

Canadian tapestries exhibited

The collection was assembled by the Agnes Etherington Art Centre in Kingston, Ontario. Financial support was provided by the Department of External Affairs. Tapestries by 22 artists from all regions of the country were featured, including: David Kaye, Susan Watson, Aiko Suzuki, Ursula Matrasov, Susan Warner Keene, Kai Chan, Guerite Fera Steinbach, Joyce Wieland and Hilda Schrier.

Exhibition depicts history of eighteenth century America

Colonial America: Eighteenth-Century Views, an exhibition currently at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, reflects some of the history that altered the face of North America during the eighteenth century.

Associate curator Mary Allodi prepared the exhibition largely from the Sigmund Samuel Collection at the museum.

The exhibition includes: prints, oil

paintings, water colours and illustrations from rare books which depict views of early cities, landscapes, maps and battle plans.

Military artists

The works of several military artists are represented in the exhibition. These well-trained draftsmen produced maps and plans and, often in their leisure time, sketched city and landscape views that

were later published as prints.

It was these types of pictures that were readily available to the eighteenth-century European public eager for visual



Cunne Shote, The Indian Chief, a Great Warrior of the Cherokee Nation by James McArdell, 1763.

information about the growing North American eastern seaports, the exploration of the uncharted west and the newly independent colonies of the south.

Portraits, cartoons and battle scenes that depict the heroes and the political events of the century are also included.

Mozart prizes awarded

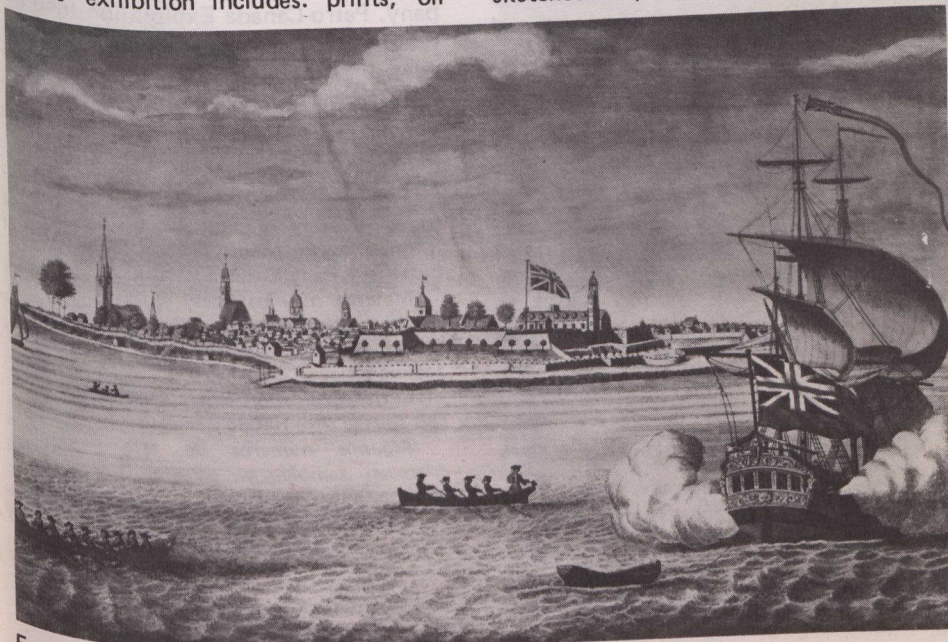
Soprano Shari Saunders and bass Christopher Cameron received the top awards of \$2 000 each in the finals of the first Canadian Mozart Singers Competition.

The competition was established through a private donation, and is administered by the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble as part of its program to develop young Canadian singers.

Divided into categories for female and male voices, the competition featured 12 young singers (30 and under) selected in audition from across Canada.

Miss Saunders is a native of New Brunswick, currently studying in Montreal, and Cameron has already gained recognition in a variety of musical activities in Toronto, where he was born and has received most of his training.

Honourable mention in the competition was awarded to Irena Welhasch, a Winnipeg soprano.



Fort George, with the City of New York, by J. Carwitham, 1764.

Royal Ontario Museum photos