News of the arts

Canadian films at US festival

Five Canadian feature-length films and 11 short films were screened at the Filmex International Film Festival held in Los Angeles from April 13 to May 1.

The Canadian films that appeared at the festival were: Les Fleurs sauvages, producer/director Jean-Pierre Lefebvre: Kings and Desperate Men, producer/ director Alexis Kanner; Poetry in Motion, producer Ron Mann; Gala, producer John Smith; Rumours of Glory, producer Martin Lavut; Boundaries, producer Elaine Pain; Nuclear War, producer Tom Hackey; God's Island, producer Ramona Macdonald; Brushstrokes, producer Sylvie Sefer; Suit of Many Crayons, producer Keven McCraken; End Game in Paris, producer Veronika Soul (National Film Board); Estuary, producer Don White (National Film Board); Pig Bird, producer Richard Condie (National Film Board); Sound producer Lynn Smith Collector, (National Film Board), Ted Baryluk's Grocery, producer John Peskevich (National Film Board) and Une Ame à voile, producer Pierre Veilleux (National Film Board).

A record 401 films from 47 countries were presented at the festival.

First international mime festival

The first international corporal mime festival will be held in Winnipeg June 8-11.

The festival – the first of its kind in the world – will celebrate corporal mime in performance, film and workshops, and is dedicated to Etienne Decroux, the father of corporal mime. Decroux has taught such noted artists as Marcel Marceau and Jean Louis Barrault.

The festival is being hosted by 40 Below Mime of Winnipeg under the directorship of Giuseppe Condello. The mime troupes and artists attending will represent the international spectrum of modern mime. Tentatively appearing will be: Pyramide Op De Punt from Belgium, Daniel Stein from the United States, and the European master of mime, Yves Lebreton. Canada is expected to be represented by Le Théâtre de l'Oblique from Quebec, Debra Skelton and Gloria Perks from Alberta, and the host troupe 40 Below Mime. All of the festival performers have been taught by Etienne Decroux.

Maximillien Decroux, Etienne Decroux's son, will be guest of honour at the festival and will conduct a master class series throughout the week. In addition, all the guest performers will give workshops during their stay at the festival. Each evening a completely different performance will be presented.

One of the unique events of the festival will be the showing of film footage, rarely viewed, of Etienne Decroux's early works.

The festival has been made possible by the sponsorship of Imperial Oil, the Canadian and Manitoba governments in addition to the governments of France and Belgium.

France-Canada TV swap

Canada and France have renewed a threeyear agreement to exchange television programs.

Under the agreement, Quebec offers France programs produced by Radio-Canada, the French language network of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, by TVA, a private French-language television network, and by Radio-Quebec, the province's educational television network.

Between January 1983 and January 1986, France will buy for its three networks a minimum of 100 hours of Quebec-produced, French-language programs and will offer Quebec 2 500 hours of programming in exchange. The French television programs will be shown on a cable television network in Quebec.

The agreement also calls for coproduction of television programs by teams of Quebec and French professionals.

A storehouse of Indian artifacts

The Amerindian Museum of Pointe-Bleue, in the lac Saint-Jean region of Quebec, is devoted entirely to displaying articles of the Montagnais Indian tribe.

Although small in size, the museum has a collection that is very rich and interesting. At its entrance are magnificent costumes once worn by a chief and a princess. Their shimmering embroidery affords a splendid display of artistry. Nerve fibres from moose were used to sew the costumes together.

The Montagnais did not waste any part of the moose: the bones were used for implements, the hide for clothing, the nerves for thread, and the meat for food. They showed great ingenuity in their tanning techniques — all the stages are

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Montagnais handiwork.

presented one by one – and in making traps, models of which have been constructed. Toboggans, mittens, moccasins, knives, snowshoes and other items of daily use are on display at the museum which opened in 1977.

The inhabitants of Pointe-Bleue are concerned with preserving and sharing their cultural heritage. Visitors to the museum can view craft demonstrations, films and slide shows.

Arts briefs

The University of British Columbia Museum of Anthropology is receiving a \$54 000 grant from the National Museums of Canada to construct a conservation lab at the museum. Existing space within the museum building, architect Vancouver by designed Arthur Erickson, will be completed to house the conservation lab. The new onsite facilities will equip the museum staff to repair and preserve the museum's diverse collections representing cultures from across the world and through thousands of years of history. In addition, the lab will become a significant part of the museum's teaching program, including a new course on the conservation of artifacts.

Quebec will inject an additional \$6 million into this year's funds for the province's proposed new film and video agency, Cultural Affairs Minister Clement Richard has announced. The measure would raise the budget of the proposed agency (La société générale du cinéma et de la vidéo) to \$11 million.