

Seneca College Theatre

Uri Geller: an evening of the "unexplainable"

By SHELLY RABINOVITCH

The key wavered, shook, and bent almost 90 degrees. Once again, Uri Geller had proved that he could indeed shape metal without touching it.

In one of two "demonstration lectures" Uri proceeded to read minds, start watches going, and bend keys, forks, and rings in an effort to convince the unbelieving audience that ESP (Extra Sensory Perception) and PK (Psychokinesis - mind over matter) are real and alive in the personage of a 25-year old former Israeli.

ESP and PK are often considered 'pseudo-powers', and those who profess such abilities are ridiculed as charlatans or witches. Geller however, has been validated at the Stanford Research Institute in California through a series of extensive tests in a totally controlled environment. The test, and the proof

- **Psychokinesis** — he deflected a calibrated laboratory balance under a bell jar without touching it.
- **Precognition** — he predicted the throw of a pair of dice all eight times he tried. (The odds against this were a trillion to one)
- **Telepathy** — he transmitted a number he was thinking to SRI's Vice-President for Research.
- **Clairvoyance** — he guessed correctly, 12 times in a row, which one of 10 aluminum cans contained objects.

Geller comes across as an unassuming, well-dressed person, not as some

sort of 'freak' or showman. If people came to see a flashy, Liberace type of big top attraction for their \$8.00, then they were disappointed, for Geller does not pretend to be a slick performer.

GIFTED CHILD

While answering questions from the audience, Geller stated that he realized his unusual gift when he was three. "I used to know what my mother was going to say before she actually said it. It wasn't until I was seven though, that I really became aware of it. I would notice that the hands of my watch would begin to curl up, inside the crystal. Soon people in my class were asking me to do the same to their watches. I really can't control my power; I'm not too sure when it will even work," said Geller in his Cyprus-Israeli accented English.

Among Geller's most remarkable achievements in the way of the unexplained is the episode in Munich, Germany, when he stopped a cable car in mid-air, and escalator in the centre of Munich, and turned off all the lights in the Olympic stadium.

"At first nothing happened, but after three minutes we received a call from the stadium that every light had gone out with no explanation" he said. The time lapse is attributed to the distance between Geller and the stadium.

"DUM-DUM-DUM"

In his performance at Seneca College Theatre March 9, Geller asked a girl from the audience to write the name of a well-known city on a

blackboard (other than London, Paris or Rome, as they are the first capitals that come to mind). He stood behind a thick wooden board and closed his eyes.

The blackboard was erased flipped-over and then Geller asked the audience to think of the word in a "dum-dum-dum" rhythm, but not to speak it aloud, lest he overhear. After three group 'repetitions', Geller came out with Lisbon, the correct name. He commented, that someone had been thinking of Cairo, and that this made the 'reception' difficult. After some asking around, it turned out that a

woman sitting two rows away from him was, in fact, thinking of Cairo.

As Geller also identified, while blind folded, a drawing of an Iron Cross, a letter "B" on its side, and he determined the clothes and colouring of a girl chosen from the audience.

GIANT SCREEN

Geller explained his visions by saying that, "I see something like a giant television screen in my head. The information comes from nowhere, in a line, and whatever I see is drawn inside the screen."

Perhaps the most interesting things

to see were the reactions of the audience to Geller's mental feats. Screeches and exclamations of awe filled the auditorium as women found their keys bending while still inside their purses. He apologized for these inconveniences and promised that after the show anyone whose key had warped could come up on stage and it would be hammered out again.

At present Geller is reportedly trying to teleport Astronaut Captain Edgar Mitchell's camera from the moon back to earth. "I'll do it and then the people will have to believe this is real."

Teach-in claims Canada exploits Southern Africa

By ROSS MALLICK

A teach-in on Southern Africa will be held this afternoon 12-4 in the Junior Common Room, Bethune College. Three films and three speakers will focus on Portuguese colonial rule in Angola and Mozambique, as well as the white — settler ruled, South Africa.

Portugal has been at war in Africa for the last 13 years, spending about 50 per cent of its national budget on defence despite being the poorest country in Western Europe.

Canada is the largest importer of oil from the Portuguese colony of Angola and buys over \$10 million worth of coffee per year, providing Portugal with the foreign exchange necessary to finance her imperialist wars. Canadians hardly miss the 15 cents spent on a cup of coffee but this represents the daily wage of a forced labourer in the coffee plantations of Angola and, by continuing to buy this oil and coffee we perpetuate Portugal's wars in Africa.

The movements presently fighting to liberate the Portuguese colonies were forced to resort to armed struggle after peaceful demonstrators and strikers were massacred by the Portuguese police.

South Africa is best known for its Apartheid system designed to maintain white minority rule over the non-white majority. The 19 per cent white portion of the total population owns 87 per cent of the land and earns 74 per cent of the national cash income. The blacks who comprise 68 per cent of the population own only 13 per cent of the land and earn only 19 per cent of the national income. Through a migratory labour system, which disrupts family life, south and western corporations obtain the cheap labour necessary to operate the industrial infra-structure and exploit the rich natural resources.

All Canadians, as consumers, benefit from the low wages paid to African workers even though most of the profits from exploitation remain in the hands of the American and British corporations and their Canadian branches.

Members of the York community

will have a good opportunity to find out about the exploitive role that Canadian business and the Canadian government plays in southern Africa at the teach-in today.

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