

## Pollock to head Banff Playwright's Colony

Sharon Pollock, a well known Canadian playwright, has been appointed to head the 1977 Playwright's Colony at The Banff Centre School of Fine Arts, it was announced today by Neil Armstrong, Associate Director of the Banff Centre.

Ms. Pollock's leadership will provide the continuing thrust for development of new Canadian

works for the stage begun here with the establishment of the Colony in 1974. Mr. Tom Hendry, who was founding head of the Colony and who conducted the first three vital years in its

development will continue his connection as one of the established playwrights-in-residence of the programme.

The Colony which focuses on the development of Canadian writers for the stage will invite six Canadian playwrights to be in residence for a six week period July 3 - August 12, 1977. Four of these will be new playwrights who have demonstrated talent but whose work is in need of the kind of intensive development process this colony is able to provide. Artistic directors, established playwrights and other professionals of the Canadian theatre will be asked to nominate candidates for these places in the programme. Two well-established Canadian playwrights such as Mr. Hendry will be invited to be in residence. They will have the opportunity to continue the development of a work in progress using the facilities of the Colony. They will also provide a valuable resource for the less experienced writers.

All playwrights will have at their disposal the resources of Ms. Pollock, the playwrights-in-residence, three directors experienced in the development of new work and a company of six Equity actors with Stage Manager. They will also have access to other major theatre and writing resources available at the Centre.

They will have private working spaces and a studio rehearsal theatre at their disposal for workshopping the new works. The directors and company will provide the opportunity for intensive development of each playwright's new work. The established playwrights will provide individual coaching. Public performances of the new works, at various levels of workshop production, will take place throughout the programme. The directors and established playwrights will also be a source of much valuable theatre experience otherwise unavailable to the developing playwright.

Sponsored by the Banff Centre, the Colony has received substantial assistance from the Canada Council, the Bronfman Foundation, Wintario, the Playwrights Co-op, Alberta Culture and the B.C. Cultural Fund. Twenty six Canadian playwrights have participated in the Colony since 1974 and a significant number of plays written and developed through the Colony process have been produced professionally in Canada and the United States and have found their way into the Canadian theatre repertoire.

Further information may be obtained from the Registrar, Banff Centre School of Fine Arts, Banff, Alberta, T0L 0C0, (403) 762-3391.

## Creativity - conference theme

Understanding the research on creativity, and learning how to put these insights into one's life, holds much promise for all. Though the notion of creativity has abounded since the very beginnings of man, how to more clearly define it, is only now emerging. It is only in recent times that a body of scientific research is emerging in the name of creativity. Creative expression is manifested in all areas of human endeavor. Those who learn its constructs can bring about an increment in cognitive function. Expressed artistically affective responses can find happy productivity in the arts-music, writing, painting, drama, dance.

Some suggest it should be taught to all children. When the

research is taught concurrently with the skill subject, it can be an aid in preventing vandalism and crime. Constructive outlets are present for experiencing the same excitement and sense of adventure, the same "highs" and "lows" those engaged in vandalism and the intake of drugs seek, but can be instead found in the creative

experience. Some consider and believe an experience creative, if it has never before taken place in the life of the child or adult. Others state it must also be defined as an act or discovery which is new, different, original and unique universally. As such it can be seen creativity is important to all - the average as well as those who are or have the

potential for being talented or gifted.

For some, creative expression seems to be an innate mode of response. Others who may be highly endowed intellectually may never have been creative. For both it is helpful to understand creativity, how it can be expanded and nurtured. CREATIVITY, JOYS LEARNING, TO GIVE AND GET THEM is the theme of a conference to be held here under the sponsorship of the National Association for Creative Children and Adults, April 24-27, 1977. More information about creativity and the conference may be obtained by writing Ann Fabe Isaacs, Program Coordinator, 8080 Springvalley Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio, 45236 U.S.A.

## 'Break a leg' taken literally

'Break a leg' is one of the traditional backstage good-luck greetings among theatre people - but it isn't meant to be taken literally.

However, Toronto actor George Dawson managed to do just that on Friday night after finishing the evening's performance of Theatre New Brunswick's THE TAMING OF THE SHREW.

Leaving the Playhouse at 11:30 p.m., Mr. Dawson slipped on the icy sidewalk and broke his right leg in two places. Doctors tell him

it will be almost two months before he can walk normally again.

In the meantime, Simon Leigh, a Fredericton poet-lecturer-actor already playing several roles in the Elizabethan comic farce, has taken on Mr. Dawson's roles as well.

Mr. Dawson is the first actor to suffer serious injury at TNB since Kenneth Dight severed a tendon in his right hand during a performance of WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF? in 1971. He was replaced by Herb Roland, who

had directed that TNB production. THE TAMING OF THE SHREW started its two-week tour of TNB towns around the province at Moncton's Mathieu Martin High School. TNB plays Sussex and finishes the week with three performances at Saint John High School. The second week the company appears in St. Stephen, Edmundston, Campbellton, Bathurst, Chatham, and closes with a return appearance at Mathieu Martin High School on Saturday, March 26.

## Summer conference planned

"A modest program of good quality which may satisfy a variety of interests" is planned for the social side of the Learned Societies Conferences (1977) being held at the University of New Brunswick May 26 through June 18.

Details of the social events were outlined by Alvin Shaw, chairman of the conference's entertainment committee, at a recent meeting of the general steering group.

Seven films have been obtained and these will be presented on a daily rotating basis, one film per day, from May 26 to June 15. There is one double-header bill, "Limits to Growth" and "Future Shock"; the other films are "Long Day's Journey into Night", "Z", "Lady Killers", "I'm All Right, Jack", "All the King's Men" and "Odd Man Out".

Five art exhibitions have been arranged on campus. Three in the Art Centre, Memorial Hall, will display the work of local artists. "Twelve Fredericton Painters" will be on view in the Faculty Club in

the Old Arts Bldg, while "Small Painting by the Bobaks" will be seen in the Fine Arts Room of the Harriet Irving Library.

Off-campus, an exhibition of the work of Eduardo Paolozzi, British Sculptor, will be offered by the Beaverbrook Art Gallery and "Graphics Atlantic" will be on view in the Green Room of The Playhouse.

On May 30 the Brunswick String Quartet will offer a recital for delegates to the conferences. A Renaissance music group from Carleton University will be present during the first week of the conferences.

The twelfth UNB summer music festival "Chamber Music and All That Jazz", opens June 3.

The Maritime Contemporary Dance Company is scheduled to perform at The Playhouse May 31 and again June 10.

It is hoped, also, that the Acadian culture will be represented by La Troupe Folklorique du

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