News of the arts

Canada wins seat on board of international theatre group

Canada has regained a seat on the governing body of the International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People.

The seat will be held by Sara Lee Lewis, president of the Canadian branch of the association, who is administrator and a co-founder of Nova Scotia's Mermaid Theatre in Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

Ms. Lewis said that Canada was voted to the position in recognition of the high Profile that production for children and Young people has in the theatre life of Canada and the international touring activities of both Canadian companies

and groups brought to this country from abroad by the federal government.

Lewis said she believed that, after lacking membership in the 11-member governing body for a term, Canada's return to it will mean greater opportunities for exchange of directorial personnel as well as continued company touring.

Mermaid Theatre, entering its tenth season, has used puppetry, songs and dances in addition to the spoken word to play to schools and other young people's audiences on tour across Canada and abroad, most frequently staging old Micmac Indian legends from this region.

War art presented at the Canadian War Museum

An exhibition of more than 100 paintings representing five different aspects of active service in the Second World War were recently on display at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

The exhibition Four War Artists featured works by Albert-Edouard Cloutier, official Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) artist, who in 1945 captured the winter harshness of an isolated radar shores of Labrador.

The works of another RCAF artist, Charles Goldhamer, covered two stages of his career as a war artist. The first delit was based at Chivenor, Devon, England. The second was a record of the advanced plastic surgery centre established at East

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Grinstead, Sussex, England which included Canadian personnel.

The third artist, Ralph Malcolm Warner, was an official Australian war artist assigned to produce a record of the Royal Australian Air Force in Canada under the auspices of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan. His works presented were part of an exhibition which travelled across Canada in 1979-80, courtesy of the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, and under the auspices of the Canadian War Museum.

The fourth artist was Robert Buckham, who was not a war artist in the official sense. His works are sketches produced during his free time as a prisoner of war in Stalag Luft III (Sagan) and VIIIB (Lübeck).



Take Off by Charles Goldhamer, an RCAF artist.

NFB film wins in Los Angeles

The International Festival of Films for Children, held recently in Los Angeles, has given their "Ruby Slipper Award" for the best short film to the National Film Board of Canada's short animation *The Sweater* by Sheldon Cohen.

Produced in 1980 by David Verrall, Marrin Canell and Derek Lamb of the NFB's animation studio, *The Sweater* has been one of the most successful films produced by the board. It has been seen in commercial movie houses across Canada, and has already won a number of prizes at animation festivals in Canada.

The short film is based on a story by Roch Carrier and is narrated by the author. It illustrates Carrier's boyhood memory of idolizing the hockey hero Maurice Richard and the agonizing embarrassment of having to wear a Toronto Maple Leaf sweater because a mail order mix up sent the odious blue and white version instead of a new Canadian sweater with the famous "9" on the back.

Festival Ottawa exhibits

The National Arts Centre's Festival Ottawa is presenting an exhibition of costumes and photos from two of its outstanding productions in the mezzanine lobby of the Metropolitan Opera House in New York.

Canadian and U.S. performers

The exhibition, which runs until the end of this year's Metropolitan Opera season, features the costumes and performance photographs of Canadian and U.S. singers who have performed at both the Metropolitan Opera and Festival Ottawa.

The costumes being displayed are from the 1979 production Cendrillon, which was recently acclaimed in Paris (costumes designed by Suzanne Mess); and from 1978's production A Midsummer Night's Dream (designed by Michael Stennett). The costumes include the Cendrillon ball gown and wedding gown worn by Frederica von Stade, as well as those costumes worn by Tytania and Oberon in A Midsummer Night's Dream. A series of production photographs accompanies the display as well, showing memorable moments from these presentations. Festival Ottawa's costume and photo exhibition is being sponsored by the Canadian Consulate in New York City.