

# Roger Whittaker to perform

Roger Whittaker, internationally loved recording star, knocked over an audience of about 4,000, the largest he has encountered on his 60-concert Canadian tour, at Fredericton's Aitken Centre on Saturday night.

By CHARLES PONDER

Born in East Africa and now a resident of England, Whittaker has enjoyed superstar status in Europe and Australia for several years now, largely for his French songs. More recently he has broken into

the pop charts in Quebec, and for just over a year he has been achieving greater success in North America, both in Canada and the United States. His major breakthrough came with the release of his hit, "The Last Farewell".

As well as on radio he has frequently appeared on television, establishing a broad base of appeal and a secure position in the entertainment world.

By his recent stint of concert touring he hopes to make himself

an indispensable entertainment fixture by meeting some of his fans first-hand. He was met with unchecked jubilation and enthusiasm at the Aitken Centre. At one point in the show a delegation of two girls shyly presented Whittaker with a red rose.

Projecting a lot of voice, Whittaker, performed a variety of songs ranging from Broadway to rock and roll. He sang "If I Were A Rich Man" from the musical

Fiddler on the Roof, which he said was the first tune to bring him any amount of recognition. He sang a number of British folk songs and Irish drinking songs. His version of "You Ain't Nothin' But A Hound Dog," while bringing terrific applause, seemed a little forced. Though he must be commended for his willingness to try anything, Elvis Presley he is not.

No young man, Whittaker seemed a trifle winded after his more energetic rock-and-roll songs, and asked jokingly, "Any volunteers for this job?"

One number was of topical interest especially to Canadians. It was about the termination of a love affair between an older man and a young woman.

For the past five years Saffron has accompanied Whittaker on his tours, a band well able to cover the broad range of material.

A big hit with the audience were his whistling, his African dancing and his singing in Swahili. He volunteered whistling lessons from which everyone noticeably benefited. His couple of songs in French were strongly received, one written by a friend of his in Paris.

Whittaker was pretty obviously more concerned to leave a good impression with his audience than anything else, at one point remarking that the way to be a success in the entertainment world is to "sing the right songs to the right people, at the right price."

After the show he signed autographs, chatted with his fans and posed with people's babies for photographs. A family man himself, with four kids, he did not allow his showman mystique to create unnecessary barriers between himself and his fans.

A return engagement in Fredericton is planned 18 months from now, but in the meantime fans will watch for his next television special, expected to be bigger and better and make more money than the last one.

# National ballet celebrates

Miss Betty Oliphant, Director and Founder of the National Ballet School, has announced that Dame Margot Fonteyn has joined the list of distinguished panelists who will be participating in the School's Dance and Education Conference in February, 1979.

Entitled "Expectations", the two-day Conference forms part of the National Ballet School's 20th Anniversary celebrations. Founded in 1959, the School has risen to prominence as one of the top four classical ballet schools in the world. It is the only school in North America to combine a complete academic program with classical ballet training.

"In celebrating our 20th Anniversary, we want to share with the dance community of Canada, the opportunity to listen to and exchange views with internationally renowned teachers, dancers, choreographers and artistic directors," Miss Oliphant said.

The list of panelists for the

Conference reads like a who's who of the international dance world. From Canada - Frank Augustyn, Alexander Grant, James Kudelka, Peter Schaufuss and Veronica Tennant of the National Ballet of Canada; Betty Oliphant of the national Ballet School; David Moroni, Arnold Spohr and Bonnie Wychoff of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet; Lawrence Gradus and Jacqueline Lemieux of Entre-Six; Paula Moreno of the Paula Moreno Spanish Dance Company; Anna Wyman of the Anna Wyman Dance Theatre; and David Earle of the Toronto Dance Theatre.

From the United States - Agnes de Mille, famed teacher, choreographer and dancer; Martine Van Hamel of the American Ballet Theatre; and Robert Joffrey of the Centre City Joffrey Ballet. From Europe - Dame Margot Fonteyn, world acclaimed prima ballerina; Erik Bruhn, Premier Dancer, teacher and choreographer; Rudi Van Dantzig of the Dutch National

Ballet; Beryl Grey, of the London Festival Ballet; Susana Janssen, Spanish Dance teacher, choreographer and dancer; Antonio Robledo, composer; Enrique Morante, Spain's finest Flamenco singer; Lynn Wallis and Nancy Kilgour of the Royal Ballet School; Vincent Tovell, Executive Producer, CBC Television - Arts, Music and Science, will chair the Conference which will be held at the St. Lawrence Centre Town Hall on February 19 and 20. The Conference will be highlighted by the Celebration Performance to take place at the O'Keefe Centre on the evening of February 21. Graduates and students of the School from Canada and around the world will join in a unique performance celebrating their former School.

Information about the "Expectations" Conference and "Celebration" Performance can be obtained from the National Ballet School, 111 Maitland Street, Toronto, Ontario.

# Toys: trinkets, treasures

**HOURS:**  
Mon. - Thurs. 12 noon - 4 p.m.  
Thurs. evening 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday 12 noon - 9 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

**SPECIAL HOURS:**

Holiday hours will be as follows:  
CLOSED DECEMBER 24, 25, 26.  
OPEN DECEMBER 27 - 30, 12 noon - 4 p.m.

Antique toys (1860 - 1930) and handmade playthings of today combined to capture something of the spirit of the festive season.

A free storyhour for 7 to 12 yearolds will be conducted each Sunday afternoon at 2:30, starting on November 26. Its theme will be the magic of toys.

A special Saturday afternoon workshop in dollmaking will be conducted at the Centre on December 2 (from 2 - 5 p.m.) by Jean McBrine. Enrollment is limited to 20; a fee of \$5.00 (five dollars) will include the cost of materials. To register, call 453-3747.

On Sunday, December 3, there will be a koolaid opening to highlight the start of the mezzanine level show of child-

ren's art. At that time, all area youngsters are also invited to participate in an oldtime Christmas tree trimming by bringing in tree decorations made at home, or creating some from materials on hand at the Centre.

The Centre will also be accepting donations of toys (new or used, in good condition) for distribution in the community by the Salvation Army.

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CHSR TOP 30

As of November 20, 1978

1. Beast of burden — Rolling Stones — WEA (2)
2. Pink Lemonade Oceans — Vaughn Fulford — CHSR Prod. (3)
3. Blue Collar Man — Styx — A&M (5)
4. Josie — Steely Dan — ABC (8)
5. Ease on down the road — Ross & Jackson — Motown (10)
6. Raise a little hell — Trooper — MCA (7)
7. Kiss you all over — Exile — Warner Bros. (1)
8. Who are you — Who — MCA (4)
9. Hollywood nights — Bob Seger — Capitol (13)
10. Double Vision — Foreigner — Atlantic (6)
11. Over and over — Joe Walsh — Asylum (16)
12. Right down the line — Gerry Rafferty — U.A. (15)
13. Alive again — Chicago — Columbia (17)
14. It's over — ELO — Jet (18)
15. Hot child in the city — Nick Gilder — Chrysalis (19)
16. My life — Billy Joel — Columbia (22)
17. You never done it like that — Captain & Tenille — A&M (23)
18. MacArthur Park — Donna Summers — Casablanca (20)
19. Don't look back — Boston — Epic (9)
20. The load out/stay — Jackson Browne — Asylum (24)
21. Whenever I call you friend — Kenny Loggins — Columbia (12)
22. Shame — Evelyn King — RCA (14)
23. London Town — Wings — Capitol (29)
24. You don't bring me flowers — Barbra and Neil — Columbia
25. Trouble — Ronney Abramson — True North
26. For crying out loud — Meat Loaf — Epic
27. Time Warp — Original Soundtrack
28. Easy Love — Aerial — Anthem
29. Straight on — Heart — Portrait
30. A man I'll never be — Boston — Epic

# Bill staines-performance

Bill Staines has spent the last ten years traveling the country, singing at college campuses, festivals, clubs and coffeehouses.

A New England native, Bill became interested in folk music during the early 1960's and, for a time, emceed the Sunday hootenany at the Club 47 in Cambridge. He soon became a popular performer in the Boston clubs; in 1971, after one of his performances, a reviewer for *The Phoenix* acclaimed him as being "simply Boston's best performer." Since these years, Bill's popularity has become more widespread and his music has taken him throughout the country.

An accomplished songwriter, a number of Bill's songs have been recorded by other musicians. Most of the material he performs is his own; however, Bill's show includes songs ranging from traditional folk tunes to more contemporary country ballads. Particularly enjoyable are his sing-alongs and yodeling numbers. In fact, Bill won the National Yodeling Championship in 1975 at the Kerrville Folk

CHSR 700

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