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Road to 3rd world

By SUE EARL

Halifax photographer Bonnie Bobyrk is having a sale of her work to raise money to go to the Caribbean.

She's not planning the usual island-in-the-sun holiday that most of us long for. Instead, Bobyrk is preparing for a four month placement working as a volunteer with Canadian Crossroads International (CCI), a non-profit organization of volunteers in Canada and thirty countries.

As a Crossroads participant Bonnie must raise \$1600 of the \$6400 cost of her placement. The first stage of her fundraising drive began last Wednesday at Ginger's Pub. Local musicians generously donated their talents for a varied and entertaining benefit concert. Various performers ranging from Henry and the Hamburgers to Ethnic Elements all provided short sets of lively music. Master of Ceremonies, actor/director John Dunsworth provided the fun by enthusiastically auctioning off various items donated by shops, including pieces from Junk'n'Fables and Bamboutique.

Bobyrk is aided in organizing these events by her local committee of Crossroads volunteers who've returned from their overseas placements and are now fulfilling their "Canadian" duties. They're expected to spend 200 hours on community work, give presentations on CCI, as well as to be resource people for new volunteers like Bobyrk.

CCI, now in its 29th year, has programs in developing countries of Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, the South Pacific and South America. Unemployment and underdevelopment, problems also found here in Canada, are worsened in the Third World by poor education, malnutrition, teen pregnancy, and extreme poverty.

Crossroads believes that the key to development is through education. This year 190 volunteers will go overseas and 60 overseas participants will be placed in Canada. The ones selected for Nova Scotia will be working for Shelburne Boy's School or Wolfville Social Services. Of the participants selected for overseas, 20% won't go due to other jobs coming up. Where the remaining volunteers are sent depends on

the choice of the on-site committee in the country. Theoretically, they choose who they feel is best suited to the culture. Most volunteers come back with a respect for the people they've worked with and a commitment to social justice.

Sean Kelly has just returned from Bobyrk's destination, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He worked in a preschool centre and used popular theatre to educate residents on different issues. Some issues that impressed him were seeing women sew smocked dresses for 20 cents apiece which were then remarketed in the U.S. for \$20 each. There is just enough food to keep people "a bellyful" away from hunger, explains Kelly. His experience in the islands was so valuable that Kelly stayed on for two months after the original four month stint was finished.

Already, Bobyrk's perspectives are changing as she reads more and talks with Crossroads contacts like Kelly. Her chance to work and live and learn development issues will happen this May, when she leaves for her placement.



Tony Anthony & Lorne smug without being serious.

Music for the masses

By STEPHEN SHAY

The Vancouver Wind Trio played for a small but enthusiastic audience Tuesday evening at the Sir James Dunn theatre. The trio displayed their musical diversity by performing various selections ranging from Brahms' sleepy classical works to the "rock around the clock" beat of Bill Haley.

Unfortunately, the audience was about as diverse as a flock of penguins.

Unfortunately since the trio's philosophy is to make chamber music "attractive and alluring to new audiences," yet by playing the traditional venues and by asking \$9.00 a ticket they were sure to

garner only the same people who attend the London Philharmonic and the CBC Chamber Orchestra when they are in town. If you want new audiences you must cater to them and that means considering their disposable income and their traditional haunts.

Unfortunately also since the three are committed to breaking down the stereotypes we associate with chamber music. They are not the rigid stoney-faced musicians who treat their audience to the deadly seriousness reminiscent of Leonid Brezhnev.

The Vancouver Wind Trio are witty and imaginative, not what we have been led to believe a chamber group should be. They

develop a warm rapport with their audience by familiarizing the common folk with the instruments they play as well as the selections they perform. They move about throughout the audience while playing the more lively pieces and mingle with the plebs during intermission.

Refreshing would be an understatement. These guys actually seem to care about what their listeners think. Revolutionary may be the only term to aptly sum up the Vancouver Wind Trio.

But revolutions can occur only when the masses are moved, and sadly the masses can't afford the VWT's ticket prices.