

# News of the arts

## Artist's work fits many categories



Paintings, collages and photographs by Montreal artist Charles Gagnon are on view at the National Gallery of Canada until May 20.

According to Mr. Gagnon, his works are characterized by their ambiguous nature; the viewer is invited by the artist to become the interpreter. In spite of his New York experience and close ties with Quebec, Charles Gagnon's work cannot be easily categorized. After the Ottawa presentation, the exhibition will be seen at the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto, and the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

## Alice Munro captures second award

Alice Munro of Clinton, Ontario has received her second Governor-General's literary award from a second Governor General.

Mrs. Munro won her first award in 1968 for *Dance of the Happy Shades*, presented by then Governor-General Roland Michener. She accepted her second award April 4, for *Who Do You Think You Are?*, from Governor-General Edward Schreyer.

First awards, announced by the Canada Council, went to Roger Caron, for *Go Boy*; Patrick Lane for *Poems New and Selected*; François-Marc Gagnon for *Paul-Emile Borduas*; Jacques Poulin for *Les Grandes Marées*; and Gilbert Langevin for *Mon Refuge est un Volcan*.

An 18-member committee considered more than 600 Canadian books before

awarding the \$5,000 cash prizes.

Mr. Caron's *Go Boy*, published by McGraw-Hill Ryerson, is an autobiographical account of the 23 years he spent in federal prisons for bank robbery and escaping custody.

The book is about making a run for freedom, something at which the author had considerable experience. During his time in prison he escaped from 13 jails.

*Who Do You Think You Are?*, a collection of ten short stories about a woman living in a small Ontario town, is published by Macmillan.

It is the fourth book by Mrs. Munro, who in 1978 was the first Canadian to win the Canada-Australia literary prize.

Mr. Lane, poet in residence at the University of Manitoba, has written ten volumes of poetry. The new book is published by the Oxford University Press.

Mr. Gagnon's 500-page study of

## Canadian play wins U.S. approval

A Canadian play, George F. Walker's *Zastrozzi*, has attracted the attention of New York impresario Joseph Papp, who, at a recent reading of the play in New York, announced his intention to produce it next season.

A representative of Papp's Public Theatre said of the script, "It's a very theatrical work. The point of view and the intelligence are so strong...and he has such an exceptional sense of humour. Most attempts at humour we get, and we get 3,000 scripts a year, just aren't worthy of the name."

Mr. Walker's play, *Gossip*, began a four-week run last month at the new PAF Playhouse complex on New York's Long Island. The 520-seat theatre, run by the Performing Arts Foundation, was opened in January.

The Empty Space Theatre in Seattle, Washington, which performed on extremely successful version of *Gossip* last season, opened *Zastrozzi* on April 4.

## TV channel for children

The International Year of the Child will be marked by a treat for Canadian youngsters — a television channel designed especially for them.

Programming for the Canadian Children's Channel, aimed at Canada's 6.8 million youngsters who are 16 or under, will include original productions, programs from TV Ontario, the National Film Board and a variety of other sources.

The channel will operate from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily and will rely on sponsors from the public and private sectors to finance the venture.

Quebec painter Paul-Emile Borduas, published by Fides, includes 168 Borduas reproductions.

*Les Grandes Marées* is a satirical look by Mr. Poulin at a comic strip translator whose quiet existence on a deserted island is gradually invaded by a number of well-meaning but destructive people. It is published by Edition Lemeac.

Langevin's *Mon Refuge est un Volcan*, published by Hexagone, is the latest in a series of collections of poems that began with *A la Grueule du Jour* in 1959.