



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

No:
No.: 110

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: DECEMBER 29, 1980

1980 CANADA-BELGIUM LITERARY AWARD TO CANADIAN WRITER VICTOR-LÉVY BEAULIEU

The Department of External Affairs announces that the Canadian writer Victor-Lévy Beaulieu has been awarded the Canada-Belgium literary prize for 1980. The annual \$2,500 prize is awarded in alternate years to French language writers in Canada and Belgium. The jury's decision is based on an author's overall contribution to literature rather than for an individual work. The prize is financed, on the Canadian side by the Cultural Affairs Division: Arts Promotion of the Department of External Affairs and administered by the Canada Council.

Laureates are selected by a jury appointed by the Belgian Ministry of French Culture and by the Canada Council. The Belgian jury this year was composed of Charles Bertin, Pierre Mertens and Claire Lejeune of the National Council for the Dramatic Arts and Marc Quaghebeur of the Ministry of National Education and French Culture.

Victor-Lévy Beaulieu was born in Saint-Paul-de-la-Croix, Rimouski, in 1945. In addition to his literary production, he is active as a publisher, journalist, teacher and critic and founded VLB Editeurs et Editions de l'Aurore. His works include Mémoires d'outre-tonneau (1968), Race de monde (1968), La nuitte de Malcomm Hudd (1969), Pour saluer Victor Hugo (1971), Jack Kérouac (1972), Monsieur Melville (1979) and Una (1980). He was awarded the Grand Prix littéraire de Montréal in 1972 for Les grands-pères and received the Governor General's Award in 1975 for Don Quichotte de la démanche.