

MARKET TO RELY EXCLUSIVELY ON A LOOSE MULTILATERAL MECHANISM IN WHICH ITS INTERESTS RISK BEING TRAMPALLED IN STRUGGLES AMONG THE ECONOMIC SUPERPOWERS.

THE FOURTH MYTH I HEAR ABOUT THE AGREEMENT IS THAT IT WILL RESULT IN A LOSS OF CANADIAN SOVEREIGNTY OR INDEPENDENCE. I REGARDED THIS ARGUMENT AS FALSE ON SEVERAL DIFFERENT LEVELS.

IF WE ARE TALKING ABOUT CULTURE, THE AGREEMENT SPECIFICALLY EXEMPTS THE CULTURAL SECTOR FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT. THIS MEANS THAT THE NORMAL DISCIPLINES DO NOT APPLY AND THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IS FREE TO TAKE SUCH MEASURES AS IT SEES FIT TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CULTURAL SECTOR, CONSISTENT WITH OUR GENERAL INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS.

IN THIS CONNECTION IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT DURING THE 1960'S AND 1970'S, WHEN CANADA'S ECONOMY BECAME INCREASINGLY INTERTWINED WITH THAT OF THE UNITED STATES, CANADIAN CULTURAL EXPRESSION HAS BLOSSOMED AS NEVER BEFORE. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT THIS TREMENDOUS OUTBURST OF CREATIVITY IN ALMOST ALL THE ART FORMS IN