

(1965), Belgium (1967) and the Federal Republic of Germany (1975). In addition, there is a General Exchange Agreement (which includes cultural and academic programs as well as various scientific exchanges) that Canada signed with the U.S.S.R. in 1971. A preliminary meeting with officials from the Mexican Ministry of External Affairs took place in September, and the Canada-Belgium Mixed Commission met in Brussels in October to discuss exchanges for the coming year. Canada also has active exchange programs with many countries that are not governed by formal diplomatic instruments. For example, officers of the Cultural Affairs Division met with members of the U.S. State Department in February to discuss cultural and academic exchanges.

Artistic exchanges and cultural promotion

A wide variety of performing groups and art displays was sponsored by the Department during 1976 under various continuing programs for the fostering of cultural relations with other countries. A major musical event of the year was the series of concerts given by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, in New York, Bordeaux, Lausanne, Lyons, Paris, London, Edinburgh and Prague. Maureen Forrester, contralto, and Ronald Turini, pianist, accompanied the orchestra as guest soloists. Canada's *avant-garde* musicians were represented in Japan by the percussion ensemble "Nexus", in Belgium and the Netherlands by Le Groupe d'Interprétation de Musique électronique, and in Sweden, Norway, West Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, France, Britain and Iceland by New Music Concerts. The last-mentioned group, with members of the Société de Musique contemporaine du Québec, received the Department's help in taking part in the "World Music Days" program of the International Society of Contemporary Music with a concert in Boston. Other ensembles on tour during 1976 were The Canadian Brass and the Orford String Quartet,

which visited the United States, and Camarata, which performed in Mexico, Cuba and Venezuela.

Individual musicians helped by the Department to make foreign concert appearances were the soprano Gaelyne Gabora (U.S.S.R.), the saxophonist Paul Brodie (England and France), the organist Bernard Lagacé (France, Belgium, Switzerland and Germany), the harpsichordist Kenneth Gilbert (Norway), the cellist Denis Brott (Switzerland, Germany and France), the pianist Arthur Ozolins (Brazil), the soprano Joan Patenaude (Belgium and Britain), the baritone Bruno Laplante (Britain, the Netherlands, Belgium) and the pianist Malcolm Troop (Chile). Among the popular entertainers sponsored by External Affairs were Edith Butler (for concerts in tribute to the U.S. Bicentennial), André Gagnon (who performed at the Cervantino Festival and in other cities in Mexico), the Manitoba folk singers Gerry and Ziz, who visited Algeria, Ivory Coast and Senegal, the *chanteuse* Gabrielle Bugeaud, who performed in Washington, and the native folk-singer Curtis Jonnie, who performed in Germany. The Department also assisted the Canadian Opera Company with its tour of the U.S.

Theatre projects included the Toronto Workshop Productions (England and the Netherlands), le Théâtre du Rideau vert with *La Sagouine* (France, Belgium and Switzerland), the Canadian Mime Theatre (New Zealand, Australia, Singapore and Britain), Les Mimes électriques (Tunisia), the Centre for Experimental Arts and Communication (Italy, Belgium, Britain), Marionnettes Merinat (France and Switzerland), and Lampion Puppet Theatre (Poland and the U.S.S.R.). The theatre designers François Barbeau and Murray Laufer represented Canada at the Prague quadriennial international exhibition and competition of stage design and theatre architecture. Also included in the Canadian display were samples of stage designs by students of the National Theatre School and plans and photographs of the new Shaw Festival Theatre at Niagara-on-the-Lake.