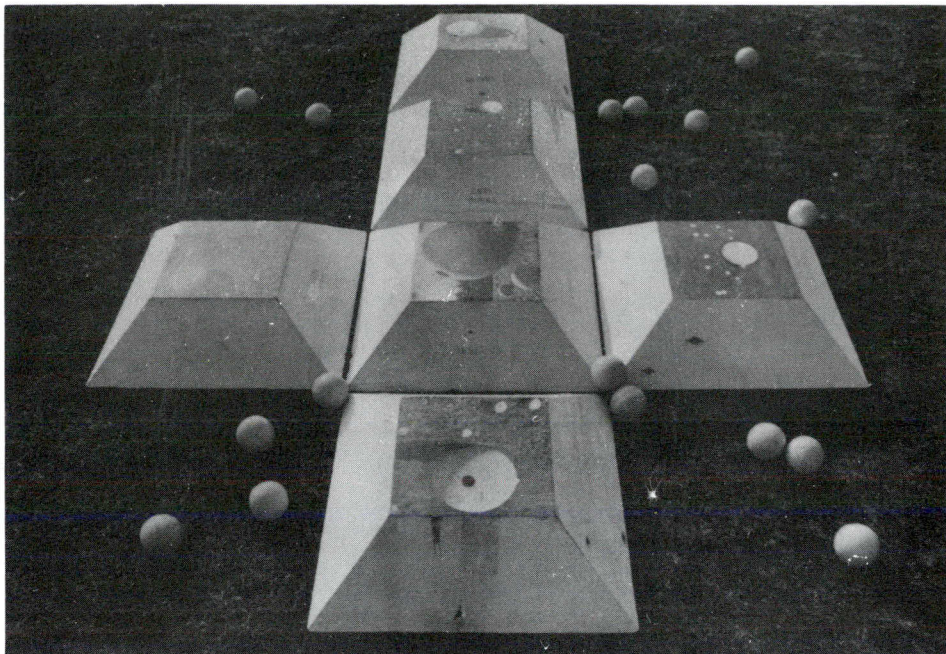


# News of the arts

## The truncated pyramid

The Quebec Museum of Contemporary Art highlighted one of the current trends in Quebec sculpture in September by inviting the public to hear sculptor Pierre Granche speak about his most recent experiments, in which he makes modular use of the "truncated pyramid". Starting with this basic form, Granche has explored the many possible combinations suggested by his study of the structure of this polyhedron.

The sculptor explained he was in search of a structured form of artistic expression and that the idea originally came to him "through deductive and intuitive methods". The form of expression he was trying to develop was demonstrated to the audience by means of an arrangement on the floor of the different shapes to be derived from the truncated pyramid. Using mathematical calculations and even the computer, the sculptor has succeeded in obtaining an unlimited number of geometric



Quebec sculptor Pierre Granche's *Pyramide tronquée*

shapes from the original polyhedron. The juxtaposition of these shapes can result in the reconstitution of a cubic mass, and can also create an interplay

of spatial relationships not only between the shapes themselves, but also between the shapes and the surrounding architecture.

## Music awards

Two of this year's Molson Prizes have been awarded by the Canada Council to internationally-renowned tenor Jon Vickers and to the string ensemble, The Orford Quartet. The prize carries with it an award of \$20,000.

The 1976 Canadian Conference of the Arts "Diplômes d'honneur" were awarded to four outstanding Canadian artists including Félix Leclerc and pianist, composer and broadcaster Glenn Gould.

The Canadian Music Council Medals "for distinguished services to music in Canada" were given to Alexander Brott, composer and conductor, John Cozens, retiring secretary of the Council after 30 years, and to Nicholas Goldschmidt, conductor and artistic director of the Guelph Spring Festival.

First prize (\$3,000) of the Canadian Music Festival (International Section) went to 17-year-old Gwen Hoebig, a Vancouver violinist.

Eteri Andjaparidze of the U.S.S.R. won the \$10,000-first prize for the best performance at the Montreal International Piano Competition held in late June.

The Ontario Youth Choir, a group of

50 singers chosen from across Ontario, recently won the British Broadcasting Corporation's international competition "Let the People Sing".

## Recent recordings

A number of Canada's internationally-known artists have recently issued new recordings: Jon Vickers singing *Les Troyens* for Phillips and *Tristan und Isolde* for EMI-Angle, Glenn Gould playing Bach and Beethoven for Columbia, Huguette Tourangeau singing in operas done for Decca-London by John Sutherland and Richard Bonyngé, and The Orford Quartet and pianist William Tritt recorded by La Guilde Internationale du Disque in France.

In addition, foreign companies have made recordings in Canada. Columbia has recorded the Toronto Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis performing the complete works of Borodin; Deutsche Grammophon recorded under Rafael Frübeck de Burgos two works by André Mathieu, played by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra for the Montreal Olympics. The Canadian classical record industry is also making its

mark: the Melbourne label, distributed by London, has made a record of the short opera by Harry Somers, *The Fool*. Airedale, also distributed by London, has produced *Les Petits Violons*, a string orchestra of student musicians under Jean Cousineau. Aquitaine, distributed by Columbia, has undertaken a complete recording of the 32 sonatas of Beethoven played by pianist Anton Kuerti as well as recitals by cellist Gisela Depkat, violinist Victor Victor Schultz, and tenor Alan Woodrow.

## Books about music

In the body of literature about composers in Canada, the Canadian Music Centre has begun a series of studies with a volume on Harry Somers by Brian Cherney, published last autumn by University of Toronto Press; the Centre's four-year project *Contemporary Canadian Composers* has been published by Oxford University Press, detailing the lives and works of 144 Canadian composers. An expanded version in French is currently in progress. The Centre's Montreal office has produced a series of pamphlets *Compositeurs au Québec*, and the Centre has recently