

# Entertainment

## The Other Side of the Picture Tripping the Light Fantastic: Presenting - Les Sortilège by Jethelo E. Cabilete

Heey everybody! Everyone have a nifty-keener Halloween (or Mardi Gras if you were lucky)? Yes folks, it's November, and almost time to dig out the fur parkas and wake up the sled dogs (Growl, snap.... Yaaahh!). Okay this week, the Other Side of the Picture is proud to present a very talented group of people, soooo... dudes and dudettes, L'Ensemble national de folklore: Les Sortilèges. Originating in Montreal, the National Folklore Ensemble Les Sortilèges was the idea of Italian-Canadian Jimmy Di Geneva. Since 1966, the Ensemble has been providing a link to folklore from ages past and from a rich diversity of cultures. Preserving the history and traditions of different cultures, Les Sortilèges brings to life such cultures as China, Mexico, the U.S.A., Canada and the Ukraine, through dance. The dancers train at Les Sortilèges in Montreal and have a large store of 200 dances (talk about memorizing!) from which the countless cultures are expressed. The word "sortilège" is taken from the Latin "sortilegium" which means spell casting (or magic) and mystery. I think the name is very fitting considering there was a feeling of enchantment when the show started. Les Sortilèges opened here in Fredericton on Tuesday, November 3, and naturally the weather sucked. There weren't that many people present (probably the mid-term thing keeping students away), but the audience was alive and at least enthusiastic (a rare phenomenon at some events, believe me!) As soon as the lights went out, the magic began. The actors-dancers began the show with La Danse Des Rubang

Rouges (Red Ribbon Dance) from China and went on from there to Turkey, Brittany, Quebec and others. The costumes fit the period of the folklore culture, and were either colorful and vibrant or rustic and somber. The music itself came from the culture of origin and ranged from lively to slow (a little bit of a problem with the sound at the start). What really is the heart and soul of Les Sortilèges, are the dancers and musician who made up this group. These people were simply amazing! The dances were perfect, and not only that, but the expressions that flew across their faces gave credibility to the dance. The audience responded to the group well, with a variety of reactions. You couldn't help but laugh at some of the antics in Le Parc Sohmer De Montreal (Sohmer Park) (really choice expressions on the dancers), clap your hands with the music of the Hoe Down (Yippee ki Yay...) or get caught up in the fun and excitement of La Soiree De Hockey (that's right, they made a dance about hockey). Some of the other dances are: Danza Del Venado (a prehispanic Mexican tribal dance based on a fight between an antelope and clyo... uh... koyote... hummm... a big, nasty dog), Le Mariage Hassidique (a marriage ceremony dance from the Hassidic Jewish culture), Le Pub Irlandais (a lot of interesting things can happen at pubs) and La Gigue Des Balais (a traditional Montréal dance and the stunning finale of the night)! Oh, and last but not least, is the musician who played alone or accompanied the taped music, Christian Laurence. The man is phenomenal! Playing either

an accordion, harmonica or just a clapper, Mr. Laurence provided an interesting and unique richness to the ensemble. The music he played ranged from the haunting quality of traditional France to the dusty-trails yahoo of the Wild West. Truly he shares the sacred art and oneness with music and dance with the dancers. As the night ended, the ensemble

received a standing ovation (very deserved) and from this writer, "Congratulations. You were a magnificent and enjoyable bunch of entertainers." It really was a magical show! And so as this column comes to an end, tune in next week when you hear writers for The Bruns say "The deadline was yesterday?" Adios amigos!



## ART STUFF

**Connexion**  
a non-profit artist-run centre

A series of large-scale paintings regarding Nature and Culture opens at Gallery Connexion on Thursday, November 5. They are the works of Rebecca Burke, Sackville artist and Head of the Fine Arts Department at Mount Allison University.

This show is Rebecca Burke's first exhibition in Fredericton. Gallery Connexion invites you to meet the artist at the opening reception at 7 P.M. on Thursday and to hear her speak about her work at a slide illustrated talk at 8 the same evening. Enter off the York Street parking lot. It is open from noon til 4 Tuesday through Friday, and 2-4 on Sundays.

### THE BEAVERBROOK ART GALLERY

Special Lecture: The Art of William Blake Wednesday, November 18, 7:30 p.m.

A Walking Tour With the Curator Dr. Douglas Schoenherr. There is no charge for this free presentation. Coffee will be served.



GOOSE LANE

Fredericton - Writers, illustrators, translators and readers will gather at the National Exhibition Centre in Fredericton at 7 P.M. on Friday, November 6, to celebrate Wonderfall - the unveiling of Goose Lane Editions' fall season of books and the premiere edition of Atlantic Books Today. In the fall of 1991, Goose Lane issued six new books, some of which went on to win awards for design, editing and literary excellence. This fall's season of books includes an equally auspicious list, including:

Chosen: A Holocaust Memoir by Gilbert Allardyce., Drawing Down a Daughter, by Claire Harris, A Full House and Fine Singing, compiled and edited by Mary Biggar Peck, Homage to Henry Alline and Other Poems by Douglas Lochhead, In Love with Then, by Ellison Robertson, Richard Hatfield: Power and Disobedience, Michel Cormier and Achille Michaud School Days, by George Peabody, When Shaving Seems Like Suicide by John B. Lee.

The authors of the books will be present at the unveiling, along with the editors, translators, illustrators and publishers of Goose Lane Editions and Atlantic Books today.