



The College Hill Folk Collective will hold its last Coffee House of this school year on Friday night April 1, 1977 at 8:30. The location is Memorial Hall and admission is free, but the hat will be passed. This week's tentative line-up features Bernie Houlihan from Mocton and our friends from the Saint John Folk Club, including John Murphy. Once again we welcome some musical members of the Cross Creek Folk Collective. You can plan on a sing-along song circle, lots of fancy foot-stompin', and dancing like you've never seen (or done) before! So come along — bring a friend and your own mug. There's free coffee and tea, and heaps of homemade munchies. And if you're planning on staying in town, check out the Collective's spring and summer activities. For information call Mark Lulham (455-1057) or Denise Pearce (455-2366).



Film Society

Unrealistic elements vital in Carne's works

The Film Society presents "Les Enfants du Paradis", Marcel Carne, 1945. Starring Jean-Louis Barrault, Maria Casares, Pierre Brasseur, Marcel Herrand. April 2nd - 3rd, Head Hall Auditorium; Saturday 8:00 p.m., Sunday 6:30 and 9:00 p.m.

Marcel Carne, born in 1909, began his film career as a documentarist, and assistant to Clair and Feyder. He directed his first film, "Jenny", in 1936, but his first screen triumph was "Quai des Brumes", in 1938: with Jacques Prevert's brilliant and poetic dialogue it is considered one of the summits of French cinema. Carne is in fact director of a series of films for which Prevert composed the scenario, among them, "Les Visiteurs du Soir", 1942, and "Les Enfants du Paradis", 1945, a work of art which emphasizes aesthetic concerns. It is set in the early years of this century: the theatres populaires, the passions of a mime and a courtesan, and the bohemianism of a celebrated actor are the fabric of a sumptuous, near-perfect film. Its essence is a discourse on art and reality, illustrated by comparisons between various artistic genres - melodrama, tragedy, pantomime, cinema - and life itself. It is a film of balance and refinement which justly deserved its international acclaim. (from "Histoire du Cinema Mondial", Georges Sadoul.)

Marcel Carne was at the height of his fame in 1945. His collaboration with the poet and script-writer, Jacques Prevert, had culminated in two of the greatest films made during the Occupation period, "Les Visiteurs du Soir", and "Les Enfants du Paradis" - his most ambitious film and one on which he had worked for two years - and the director seemed destined to achieve still further success. Although "Therese Raquin", 1953,

is perhaps Carne's most accomplished post-war film, his post war work has nowhere near the same interest as his earlier films, and his reputation has declined steadily during the last fifteen years. The last film on which he worked with Prevert, "La Fleur de l'Age", 1947 was interrupted because of financial difficulties and never resumed. It is on this low note that the long collaboration of Prevert and Carne, one of the most famous writer-director teams in the history of the cinema, came to an end.

In his subsequent films, Carne has collaborated with quite a number of reputed scenarists. He was younger than many of the men who were to dominate the cinema after 1945: Autant-Lara, Bresson, Clouzot, Tati. He was able in 1946 to reassemble a team including his favourite collaborators, and has been able to call on a succession of brilliant directors of photography, Claude Renoir among them. All his work shows a fine command of the essentials of composing and editing a scene, his continued technical mastery being clearly revealed in those scenes of violent death with which most of his films culminate.

On the surface at least, Marcel Carne has much in common with the dominant and highly successful group of post-war directors. The fundamental difference is that his own inclination is to turn his back on realism as soon as the opportunity presents itself, and continue to aim at the kind of philosophical, fate-dominated and essentially fantastic spectacles he made in collaboration with Prevert during the Occupation. If his name is associated with a succession of works, from "Quai des Brumes" to "Therese Raquin", which have a nominal setting in the everyday world, Carne, with or without Prevert, has never shown the

slightest interest in the details of day to day life. The vital elements in Carne's works are the unrealistic ones: the characters who tend to become abstractions

with a symbolic function, the workings of fate, not an exploration of society. (from "French Cinema", since 1946, Vol 1, Roy Armes.)

Feature fantasy coming soon

This year of 76-77 has brought about two new innovations to the halls of Marshall d'Avray. The first was unleashed upon the student populace about a month ago, when the student television club was formed. This is a third additive to the now existing medias, CHSR and the Brunswickan. Much forethought and pre-planning was made before the concert product was exposed.

The same is true for the second innovations, that being "Northlander Productions"; a student television and film production unit. It is sheltered by the all-encompassing umbrella of Student Television, but exists as an unique section to this group. It's early state was nurture in the minds of Bill Rankine and Wayne Dunham back in the fall of '76. Rankine's somewhat of a novice at the art (5 years of experience) while Dunham, having no previous experience, merely undertook the task for the interest. His imagination and creative abilities have proved invaluable. The first barrier was to decide on a story concept for the first production. A fantasy series was finally settled on, later to be titled THERA. Many long days and nights were spent creating a world and background with which to base this adventure series on. The format is sword and sorcery fantasy with continuing characters in the tradition of Tolkien, Lewis, Merrit, Howard, Norman, Dunsay and many other fantasy writers

whose vivid imaginations have enriched the literature of the English language. THERA combines a variety of drama-action-adventures with complete production practicality, and with almost limitless story potential.

The team received a room (142) at Marshall d'Avray Hall from the Education Drama Department and enthusiasm has been building. A young lady, Ms. Pam Ritchie submitted to them a story line on a pseudo-sci-fi production about an alien protection agency on Earth called S.A.F.E. Ms. Ritchie has now joined Rankine and Dunham in the pre-production of THERA, with her series pre-production in the offing. With the series guidebook just about completed and script writing getting underway, it is hopeful that the pilot film of THERA will be before the cameras in the fall of '77. Letters have been sent to the National Film Board and the Canadian government for backing.

The production budget for THERA is high, allowing for the best possible end product. The make-up costs, alone, run to roughly three hundred dollars, mostly for special latex appliances that have to be designed and built. Rankine also reports that the special fantastic effects will run steep, especially the complicated stop-motion animation, which will be filmed all this summer, and continuously throughout the production year. While the bulk of the filming will be on color video-tape,

the special fantastic effects have to be done entirely on film.

If all goes well in 77-78, UNB will have a fantastic fantasy adventure series aired on its own student television station. More information on this ambitious project will be available next September when classes resume.

Harmonium reaches gold status

CBS Records Canada recording group Harmonium was presented with a "Gold" record for the album entitled "l'heptade", which is their first for CBS. The "Gold" record presentation was made in Montreal by Terry Lynd, President of CBS Records Canada Ltd. Harmonium has completed a week of sold-out concert appearances at the Outremont Theatre in Montreal.

CBS Records Canada, which is in the midst of a marketing push on the album across the country, expects it to reach "Platinum" status in the near future.

Harmonium will be performing in Toronto on April 3rd at Convocation Hall.