

# News of the arts

## Canadian art at Prime Minister's home

Prime Minister Joe Clark and his wife Maureen McTeer are turning their home at 24 Sussex Drive into a showcase for Canadian artists.

"All Canadians will be represented through their artists," explained architect Cecilia Humphreys, who is in charge of redecorating the Prime Minister's residence.

The emphasis is on contemporary art; most of the artists, in fact, are still alive.

The Prime Minister's library, for example, will contain native art: paintings, prints and sculpture from Inuit and Indian artists.

The living and dining rooms will have paintings primarily by Canadian women, although so far there are only two pictures by women artists there — *Silence*, by Maritimes painter Ruth Wainwright, and *Sans titre*, by Raili Mikkanen.

The front entrance hall has furniture made by nineteenth-century Canadian craftsmen; the pictures will reflect that era with landscapes and rural scenes such as the landscapes of the Laurentians by Jacques de Tonnancourt.

Prize-winning Ottawa graphic artist Betty Davison did the small hand-coloured three-dimensional flower print in a small room off the main hall. Another Ottawa artist, Alex Wyse, did the picture called *Exercising Flying Cows Over the Governor General's Grounds*, which hangs on the stone wall of the terrace, near a brilliant oil canvas, *Pink Pleasures*, by Daniel Solomon of Toronto.

Three prints by Toni Onley, a British Columbia artist, hang in the staircase hall.

An oil painting by Jack Chambers, the late London, Ontario artist, is in the living room and may be joined by oils by Paul-Emile Borduas, Leon Bellefleur, and M.B. Eastlake. A Sorel Etrog untitled standing figure, a bronze abstract by Charles Daudelin and a piece by Louis Archambault will probably be the sculptures in the living room.

A Tony Urquhart mixed-media wall sculpture called *The First Door* hangs in the garden entrance hall. One of the most beautiful series of pictures is Vancouver artist Robert Sinclair's *Pertaining to Plants Series*, studies in pencil and watercolour which hang in the upstairs sitting room. Three Michael Snow works entitled, *Sending and Receiving — Crosswalk + After*, hang on the staircase walls and a Harold Town oil may be at the top of the stairs.

### Children remembered

Children during the International Year of the Child have not been forgotten: A whole wall in the second floor sitting room will hold a collection of pictures done by children in Mr. Clark's constituency in High River, Alberta.

Michel Christensen, an exhibits coordinator with the National Museum of Natural Sciences, is on loan to the Prime Minister's office to co-ordinate all the art on display in the house as well as in the parliamentary offices and the Prime Minister's offices.

The art displayed in the house including a priceless Chinese silk rug, Sir John A. Macdonald's clock, the dining room's Sheraton and Hepplewhite furni-

ture, and other treasures, belongs to the people of Canada. It is available for display in official residences and offices and Mr. Christensen is working closely with people from the National Gallery, the National Film Board, the Art Bank (which is part of the Canada Council), the National Museums, the Canadian Conservation Institute, the Archives, the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Department of Public Works.

"The library will also contain art books which will explain the pictures in the house, as well as a large Eskimo sculpture which is from Mr. Clark's private collection," Mr. Christensen said.

"The Museum of Natural Sciences is loaning some large mineral samples for the swimming pool area, and there are going to be plexiglass sculptures from the Art Bank, one by artist Jean Noel," he said.

## Museum wins top award

The National Museum of Man in Ottawa has been honoured with an international award for excellence in communication.

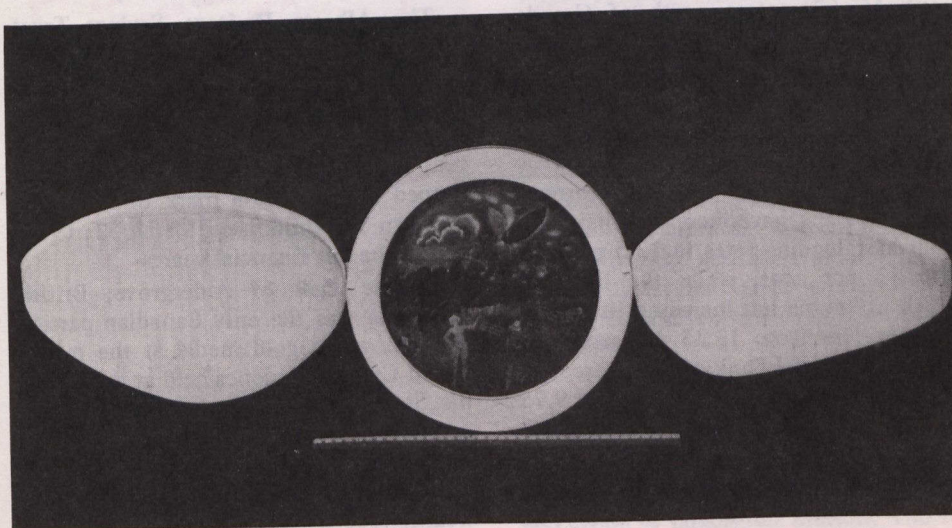
The Gold Quill Award of Excellence, given annually by the International Association of Business Communicators, was awarded for *The Lunch Box*, one of 62 educational kits available free from the museum.

The kit, which was the idea of Lorna Kee and Kim McDougall of the museum's education resource development department, is all about food. Using artifacts, written material, games and audio-visual aids, *The Lunch Box* describes the role food has played in the history of man.

Included in the package are several cookbooks, including UNICEF's *Many Hands' Cooking*, Sondra Gottlieb's *Cross-Canada Cooking*, and a National Film Board production, *Hold the Ketchup*.

*The Lunch Box* is the latest effort in the Museum of Man's education program. Conceived ten years ago, the kits are primarily for adolescent schoolchildren, although they can be adapted for younger age groups.

Each year a catalogue is mailed out to schools and institutions announcing the latest kits. "We try to keep the themes Canadian to fill our mandate with the national museum corporation," said Ms. McDougall. Subjects include aspects of Canadian history, the lifestyles of Indian and Inuit peoples and a variety of other multicultural topics.



Alex Wyse's *Exercising Flying Cows Over the Governor General's Grounds*, 1975.