

News of the arts

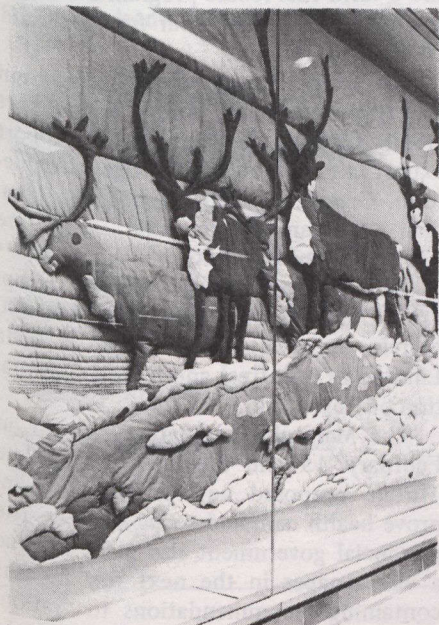
Fabienne Thibeault named female discovery of the year

Quebec singer Fabienne Thibeault was named "female discovery of the year" at the thirteenth International Record and Music Publishing Market (MIDEM) in Cannes in January.

The annual contest, organized by radio station Europe No 1, is the culmination of a year of polls regularly conducted among listeners of the station.

Twenty-one Canadian companies representing lyricists, composers and performers participated in Midem this year. Canada's music publishing industry ranks seventh in the world in sales and third in "consumption". In 1976, some 175 producers exported over 85 million records and cassettes, and at last year's Midem, Canadian companies concluded some 30 agreements and signed contracts worth \$500,000.

Art in the subway



A mural fashioned in quilt, depicting caribou wandering across the tundra, is one of the art works featured in an extension to Toronto's subway between the centre of town and the northwestern outskirts, which began operating last year. Some \$550,000 for art projects in the eight-station Spadina line came from the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation (raised through the Wintario lottery), industry and the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

Denmark donates art medals

Ambassador Hans Tabor of Denmark presented to Dominion Archivist Wilfred Smith on February 16, 52 art medals, issued and donated by Anders Nyborg A/S of Horsholm, Denmark.

Most of the medals, designed by distinguished European artists and sculptors, represent themes from the northern countries of Denmark, Greenland, Faeroes, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Finland. The exception is a set of 12 zodiac medals, each having the appropriate gem for its sign inset in the obverse.

The medals, which display great artistic originality, also represent the highest technical achievement in the manufacturing process. They are struck in bronze, most being 70 mm in diameter and over 5 mm in thickness.

"With our limited resources the National Medal Collection's emphasis is overwhelmingly on Canadian medals," said Dr. Smith. "This is a pity in so far as Canada's medallic heritage can only be understood in a broader context with a European base. The present gift from Denmark is all the more appreciated for what it adds to our record of that international medallic culture to which Canadian medals belong."

Canada/Australia Literary Award

The Department of External Affairs, the Canada Council and the Australia Council have announced that the winner of the Canada/Australia Literary Prize for 1978 is the Australian poet, Thomas Shapcott. The prize, \$2,500 (Canadian), is intended to help make better known in Australia and Canada the work of each other's writers.

Australian playwright, John Romeril, received the inaugural award in 1976 and Canadian writer Alice Munro, was the 1977 winner. Each year an Australian or Canadian writer is chosen by a panel of judges from the other country. This year the Australia Council submitted works by six authors to the Canadian jury.

The prize, awarded for a writer's total output rather than for a single work, is financed one year by the Australia Council and the other year by the Department of External Affairs, as part of its program of cultural relations with foreign countries. The Canadian award is administered

for the Department by the Canada Council.

Thomas Shapcott, born in 1936, in Ipswich, Queensland, as poet, anthologist and critic is considered to be one of the most influential of present-day Australian writers.

As part of the Canada/Australia award, each recipient is invited to visit the host country. Last year's winner, Canadian writer Alice Munro, is visiting Australia this month as the guest of the Australia Council.

Japanese television show features Canadian science centre

Millions of television viewers throughout Japan will be able to see some aspects of Toronto's Ontario Science Centre on March 21. In celebration of the vernal equinox, Asahi National Broadcasting is presenting an hour-long, prime time national program called, *This is Ontario Science Centre*.

The producers of the show are concerned about the international lack of understanding of man's relationship to science and technology. Of all the places they visited, the Ontario Science Centre concerns itself most with the non-scientist, explaining to visitors the impact of science and technology on their lives.

The program documents a visit by a reporter and children to the various exhibit halls at the Centre itself as well as at the Science Circus, the Centre's major travelling exhibit.

Arts briefs

Soprano Joan Sutherland will sing the title role of Donizetti's *Anna Bolena* with the Canadian Opera Company during the 1980-81 season. Miss Sutherland, considered the world's foremost coloratura soprano, performed at Massey Hall January 14, her first Toronto recital in 16 years. She has never appeared in an opera in that city.

A National Film Board short, Ishu Patel's *Afterlife*, will be screened at this year's Berlin Film Festival.

Canadian tenor Jon Vickers recently received the 1978 London *Evening Standard* newspaper's opera award. The singer accepted the award from Lord Donaldson, Britain's minister of the arts.