

# News of the arts

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## Exhibition of Kurelek paintings to tour Canada



Kurelek's Trustees Meeting on the Barber Farm, Regina, 1976.

Kurelek's *Vision of Canada*, the first exhibition dealing with the complete works of Canadian painter William Kurelek, is scheduled to open at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery on November 18 and then tour 14 other museums and galleries in Canada's ten provinces through 1984.

The major retrospective of Kurelek's work, covering the period 1961-1977, is being sponsored by the Mutual Life Assurance Company of Canada and organized by Joan Murray, director of the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa, Ontario.

### Unique interpretation of Canada

In announcing the exhibition, the chairman of Mutual Life of Canada John H. Panabaker said that "William Kurelek came to understand what it means to be

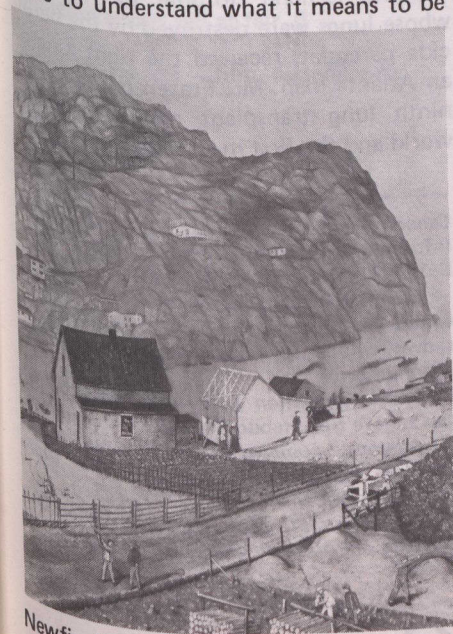
Canadian in so many different parts of the country. His vision reflects that understanding".

The focus of *Kurelek's Vision of Canada* will be on works which communicate the artist's unique view of Canada's landscape and its people, depicting a variety of locales from the Atlantic provinces to the mountains of the west coast. The exhibition comprises 57 paintings on loan from some 30 public and private collections in Canada and the United States.

William Kurelek (1927-1977) was born in Alberta and received post-secondary education and some art training in Manitoba, Toronto, Mexico and England. In addition to painting, he illustrated a number of books, two of which received the New York Times Award for best illu-



By The Breath of the Spirit II, 1975, by William Kurelek.



Newfie Jokes, painted by William Kurelek in 1974.

strated children's books: *A Prairie Boy's Winter* in 1973 and *Lumberjack* in 1974. Among other awards presented to him were the Order of Canada in 1976 and the Christian Culture Award in 1977.

Kurelek's paintings are represented in many collections in galleries and museums throughout Canada and the United States and have been exhibited in other centres in both countries as well as London, England.

Catalogues are being prepared in both English and French to accompany this exhibition as well as an educational brochure and a full-colour poster reproducing *The Painter*, one of the works in the show.

## Arts briefs

The Canadian premiere of *Yes, Giorgio!*, starring tenor Luciano Pavarotti in his movie debut, was held on September 23 at the University Theatre in Toronto, as part of a gala benefit for the Canadian Opera Company. The movie is described as a romantic comedy and featured Pavarotti in several scenes from the Puccini opera *Turandot*.

The third annual Square and Round Dance Convention, the largest international hoedown ever held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, attracted some 5 500 dancers from across Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Britain for three days of dancing in hockey arenas, hotel ballrooms and in the city streets. Included among the dancers were The Wheeling Eight Square Dance Club, a Vancouver-based team confined to wheelchairs and The Starlights, a blind square-dance troupe from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Kent Thompson, novelist and short story writer who has taught at the University of New Brunswick since 1966, and poet Andrew Greig, who has taught at the universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow, are the Canada-Scotland exchange writers-in-residence for 1982-83. Thompson, author of *Shacking Up*, will spend the year at the University of Edinburgh, and Greig, whose collection *Surviving Passages* was published this year, will be at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario.

The Toronto Children's Chorus recently won the children's chorus competition at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales. Judges cited "excellent word colouring, ...lovely tone and perfect pitch" in their decision.