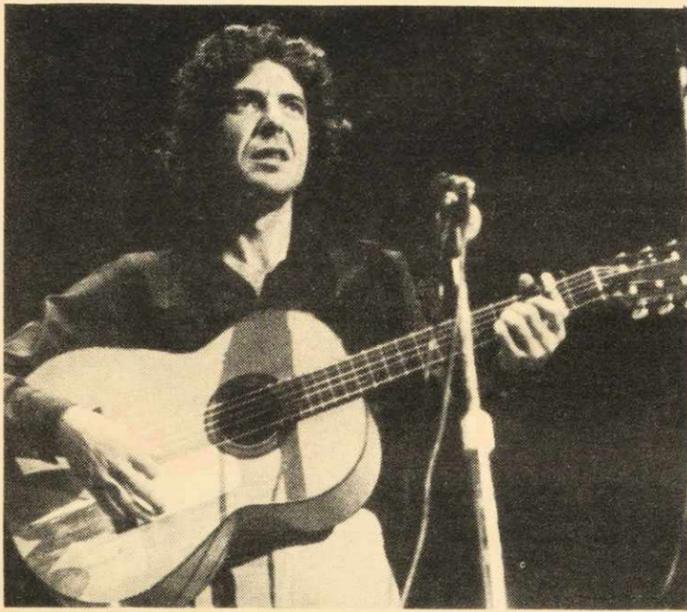


# Cohen: Veni, Vidi, Vici



by Lorne Abramson

The Capitol Theatre—built in 1930—reproduction of an olde castle—tales of chivalry and knighthood—romance—love—LEONARD COHEN—a perfect match.

On Friday, Oct. 16, Leonard Cohen was here. Veni, vidi, vici, as they say. Amidst this beautiful theatre of outer and inner courtyards, knight's armor, drawbridge, flags, coats of arms, and with walls covered with Early Canadian murals, Leonard Cohen was a smashing success. He, in the complete sense of the word, wooed his packed audience of over 1900, with songs of love and life.

Leonard Cohen is a poet. The lyrics he writes gives life force to the images they convey. "Listen to the pictures flow, across the room, into your head, they go." - Gord Lightfoot. "They" are images of Us. Images of the things that make it worth living out 65 or 70 years on earth. This is what Cohen creates.

We sit there waiting for the genius to appear—a packed house getting restless - it's getting hot in here—band is setting up, adjusting mikes etc.—suddenly he appears—poet, writer, composer, singer—all blend beautifully into Leonard Cohen—"I've tried to be free", "So long Marianne", dedicated to a woman with whom he once lived—"You know who I am," he sings, accompanied by "The Army".

Probably the one detracting feature of Cohen's performance is his two adoring disgustingly female females. He, amusingly, admits his male chauvinistic character, by referring to these two flowingly-dressed groupies, as his "Cohenettes". At least Ray Charles is blind! Personally, I have seen Leonard Cohen perform

several times now, and I honestly question why he took on any accompaniment. Although "The Army" did show quite well at times, he would be better off without them. However, he did say himself, "I'm substituting poetry for Vaudeville!"

Cohen, himself, is real. He doesn't pretend on stage. "Drugs may be the way to salvation. I wrote this song after an amphetamine investigation. We didn't take drugs in those days, we only investigated." The song, "Thin, green, candle" is one of Cohen's most beautiful pieces and it was interesting to see him make light of it. He then dedicated a beautiful ballad "The Marriage of Joan of Arc", to our recently departed giant, Janis Joplin. He then went to intermission with a real rollicking, un-Cohen-like number in which they all were enjoying themselves tremendously on stage. The audience clapped along—it was a good change of pace.

He received a good ovation from a seemingly entertainment-starved audience.

After intermission they came out and sang a song by Gilles Vigneault with a French verse. Cohen questioned whether the manifesto (F.L.Q.) was the solution to problems. Cohen showed good showmanship with a very suggestive poem which he then explained as being about "The Sisters of Mercy." The audience liked it . . . they were really digging him; he did a great job of that song of the same name. - "Oh, Won't You Be Naked For Me?" - All prudes, please leave the theatre! He then came out with an anti-Women's Lib, anti-abortion song which was highly unenjoyable.

Besides this, Cohen was fantastic. After his finale, "Suzanne", the audience gave him a standing ovation. He seemed surprised by the audience reaction. Perhaps he had heard about the sometimes staid Halifax audiences. He came back for a lovely encore and then left the stage with another tremendous ovation.

The whole subject of audience reception has become extremely interesting to me lately. Being from Montreal, and having just taken up residence here, I can still be fairly objective about Halifax's entertainment problems. I wrote an entertainment column last year at University of Montreal and got to speak to a number of entertainers. One of their main complaints about Halifax was the reception they received. They were never really sure of the kind of house they would get and many of them complained about the lack of audience enthusiasm. This they considered to be Halifax's outstanding fault.

Some questions in my mind are: Why is such a beautiful theatre such as the Capitol Theatre not used more to bring in performers to Halifax?—Is Halifax afraid that they aren't sophisticated enough to fill a theatre?—Are there no richer people willing to sponsor good entertainment? - - Dalhousie students, and members of the other universities in the city, if you want big city entertainment, you will have to be willing to fully support it, by filling the houses and demanding more and better quality. Halifax, let's get with it !!

(Thanks to Mr. MacMillan, manager of the Capitol theatre.

After complicated and extensive analysis, the Gazette has found that individuals claiming that they cannot, have not and probably never will be able to write news stories, sports stories, or layout pages are the stuff that gazette staffers are made of.

So you too are eligible (and indeed much wanted) for the Gazette staff. Join us soon, on the third floor of the SUB.

## AROUND HALIFAX

Thursday, Oct. 22 - "Battle of Algiers"  
DAL Film Society  
-Biology Journal Club -  
Dr. Gary S. Hicks - "Flower  
Morphogenesis in Tobacco" - 201  
Forestry  
Bldg. - 4:30

Friday, Oct. 23 - Theatre - Open Meeting -  
Erika Munk "Politics and the  
Theatre"  
4:00 p.m. Killam Lib.  
- Dance - Men's Residence  
"Killer Egg" - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 24 - Alumni Assoc. Annual  
Coffee Party & Sale. 10:30 a.m. Shirreff  
Hall.

Sunday, Oct. 25 - Folk Mass. SUB. 7:30 p.m.  
-Concert series. Cohn Syntagma Musicum of  
Amsterdam.

Tuesday, Oct. 27 - Dal Art Gallery Lunch  
Hour Film Series. a. Michelangelo b. Max  
Ernst.

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6199 Coburg Rd.



CANADA MANPOWER CENTRE

4th Floor, Student Union Building  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
October 1970

DEPARTMENT OF MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION

Dear Graduating Student:

There are a number of facts concerning you and your future that we at your University Canada Manpower Centre would like to bring to your attention:

- (1) Your Canada Manpower Centre offers a free student service, for all students by giving advice and counselling concerning career opportunities as well as assistance in locating part-time and summer employment.
- (2) Each year, commencing on October 15, national firms visit the campus to interview graduating students and to offer them employment.
- (3) Many students fail to take advantage of the recruiting season, wait until too late to decide upon a choice of careers, and as a result find themselves unemployed upon graduation.
- (4) The majority of business firms who recruit graduates at this university are on campus during the period October 15 through to the end of November.
- (5) Most employers who interview students on campus do not expect the students to commit themselves in any way until quite late in the year.
- (6) This year graduate schools were unable to accommodate the large number of students who applied for admission. Even if you plan to attend graduate school it may be an idea to call on your Canada Manpower Centre.

We bring these facts to your attention in the hope that we may be able to help you. We're on the 4th floor of the Student Union Building.

Yours very truly  
T.W. O'Connell  
Manager