

successful debuts in New York with assistance from the Department. The Contemporary Dancers of Winnipeg were also given support to appear at three important festivals in the United States.

In November, the Department, with the co-operation of the Canada Council, the Canadian Music Centre, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and its own cultural centres in Paris and London, sponsored a week-long promotion in both cities of contemporary Canadian compositions, under the title "Musicanada". Each series was designed to bring music critics, concert agents and producers into direct contact with a representative sample of Canadian musical compositions, interpreted by outstanding Canadian performers. The project included over 80 musicians and featured works by 32 living Canadian composers. The musicians involved in the series were the Orford Quartet, le Quintette à Vent du Québec, the Canadian Brass, la Société de Musique Contemporaine du Québec, the Festival Singers, and the conductors Mario Bernardi, who directed the British Broadcasting Corporation Symphony, and Pierre Héту, who conducted the Nouvel Orchestre Philharmonique de Paris. Most of the concerts were broadcast nationally by the BBC or Radio-France, dramatically multiplying their audiences. Subsequently the Department supported a week of similar musical events in Germany produced by the Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada. This series was opened by Boris Brott, conducting the Beethovenhalle Orchestra, and involved most of the "Musicanada" groups. The Festival Singers and the Canadian Brass, along with mezzo-soprano Lois Marshall, visited the U.S.S.R., where they performed to overflow houses. The Department also helped the McGill Chamber Orchestra make a December tour of Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia that received similarly high praise. Support was also given to the Quebec Symphony Orchestra for a performance in Washington, D.C.

The tour of the People's Republic of China in March by the Canadian Brass was a milestone event of 1977. The group met with a friendly reception for its performances in concert halls and factories, and opened the way for closer cultural co-operation with the P.R.C. The Shanghai Ballet Company appeared in five Canadian cities in May on its first tour in North America. The success of these tours entailed close collaboration between the Chinese and Canadian Governments.

Individual musicians who received financial help in giving concerts abroad included the classical piano-duo Bouchard and Morrisett (who represented Canada at the Cervantino Festival in Mexico), the folk trio Stringband (Mexico), the guitarist Leona Boyd (Latin America), Camerata (Europe), the popular singer Murray McLaughlin (Japan), the folk-singer Raoul Roy (North Africa and Senegal), the York Winds ensemble (New York), the pianist Irving Heller (Italy), the soprano Anna Chornodolska (Mexico), the organist Raymond Daveluy (Switzerland), the pianist Karen Quinton (Europe), the cellist Gisela Depkat (Belgium), the folk-singer Raymond Brault (Louisiana), the folk ensemble Maple Sugar (Washington, D.C.), and the Artists' Jazz Band (New York). The composer Harry Somers made a lecture tour of the U.S.S.R. at the invitation of the Union of Composers, and Murray Schafer lectured in Poland, Britain, Portugal, Italy and Germany. A series of television films of popular singers from Quebec was purchased by the Department for showing in French-speaking Africa. The Department continued to support the activities of Les Jeunesses Musicales/World Youth Music. A delegation of Japanese music critics and concert agents was brought to Canada on a familiarization visit.

The Department sponsored, during the year, a tour of France and Belgium by the Théâtre Expérimental de Montréal (TEM). The TEM project was a unique transatlantic experiment involving Belgian and French actors and directors, who worked first in Canada with the TEM and later performed with the Canadian company during its tour abroad. The Department also sent the Théâtre Populaire du Québec to the Festival d'Avignon in France