# News of the arts

### World Music Days a first

World Music Days will be held in Toronto and Montreal in 1984 by the International Society for Contemporary Music.

The Canadian Music Council said that, during the observance, held in Canada for the first time in the society's 61-year history, special concerts will feature music chosen by an international selection committee. Six Canadian compositions have been submitted for performance at this year's festival in Denmark.

## Television program features prima ballerina

Prima ballerina Veronica Tennant, who performs with the National Ballet of Canada, was the subject of a program recently broadcast by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Veronica Tennant: A Dancer of Distinction was directed by Carol Moore-Ede and was part of CBC-TV's Portraits series.

The documentary pays tribute to Miss Tennant, an internationally acclaimed Canadian artist. She is one of Canada's foremost dance-actresses, a children's novelist and is actively involved in many other art forms.

The program showcases the interpretive powers and technical virtuosity of



The National Ballet of Canada's Veronica Tennant in a scene from Romeo and Juliet.

Miss Tennant, while tracing her development from a young girl determined to become a ballerina, to her position today as a dancer of international stature. It includes interviews and performances with such dancers as Eric Bruhn, Anthony Dowell, Peter Schaufuss and Frank Augustyn.

Interwoven with these elements, and forming the backbone of the program, are sequences from many of the ballets, classical and modern, in which Miss Tennant has starred. These include sequences from *The Dream, Mad Shadows, Giselle, Washington Square* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Her dancing partners include Anthony Dowell, Peter Schaufuss, Frank Augustyn, Thomas Schramek, Kevin Pugh and Raymond Smith.

As well, the program reveals the multifaceted nature of Miss Tennant's interests and her sense of fulfilment in both her professional and domestic life.

#### NFB honoured in Hawaii

The artistry of the National Film Board of Canada (NFB) is the subject of a three-month film festival that began last month in Hawaii.

The festival, *Hawaii Celebrates 40* Years of Canadian Films, presents a series of programs taken from the rich mosaic of documentary and animated works produced at the NFB during the past 30 years.

The festival, being sponsored by eight organizations, opened with a special screening and reception at the Honolulu Academy of Arts on February 2.

"The academy takes special pride in presenting the world of filmmakers from the National Film Board of Canada during this Hawaii Film Festival, arranged with the NFB and other organizations," said George Ellis, director of the Honolulu Academy of Arts. "This collaboration," he said, "has made possible the statewide exposure of these documentary and animated works and will contribute significantly to a broader awareness of film as an art form as well as a greater appreciation of this world-renowned Canadian institution."

In addition to the Honolulu Academy of Arts, films are being screened at the East-West Centre and at a number of colleges. A program of animated films will also tour the neighbour islands.

Since its founding in 1939, the board has earned an international reputation as

one of the most innovative contributors to the art of filmmaking: cinéma vérité techniques, revolutionary forms of animation, improvements to camera equipment, multi-screen films, new printing processes — all have been developed at the National Film Board in the course of producing thousands of films.

#### **Broad mandate**

According to its mandate the NFB's responsibility is to "interpret Canada to Canadians and to other nations". With that broad responsibility, the subjects of NFB films are almost too numerous to categorize. There are films on politics, science, education, psychology, social change, health, men, women, children... seen regularly in theatres, on television screens and in classrooms across the world.

The film board has received more than 2 000 prizes for excellence in international film festivals, including six Oscars. In 1979, the National Film Board was honoured by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences "in recognition of 40 years of superior artistry in motion pictures, of leading the way in the development of the documentary film, of guidance and inspiration to a generation of young filmmakers who are now among the world's professionals, and of entertaining the world with cinema images of beauty, grace and intelligence".

#### Canadian pianist receives posthumous awards

Pianist Glenn Gould received three honours posthumously from the United States National Academy of Recording Arts Science's at the recent Grammy awards ceremony held in Los Angeles.

Mr. Gould was awarded two Grammies in the classical category for his recording of Bach's *The Goldberg Variations*, which took top honours for best album and best instrumental solist. In addition, his 1956 recording of *The Goldberg Variations* was also given a Hall of Fame award for recordings made in the pre-Grammy era.

Mr. Gould, who was from Toronto, died in October at the age of 50. He was a celebrated classical pianist with a repertoire that included hundreds of pieces by a wide range of composers. His foremost interests were the works of Johann Sebastian Bach and the twentieth-century composer Arnold Schoenberg.