
Cultural affairs

The program of cultural relations with foreign countries, for the planning and administration of which the Cultural Affairs Division is responsible, underwent continued growth in 1974. A larger number of grants were made to enable Canadian achievements in the performing and visual arts to become better known abroad and to expand assistance to the Canadian academic community. The Cultural Centre in Paris, the Cultural and Information Centre in Brussels, the Art Galleries of Canada House in London and of the Consulate General in New York were more active. Although less than six years old, the Centre in Paris has already become a significant part of the Paris cultural scene; in 1974 over 40,000 persons attended its various manifestations.

Artistic exchanges

Six major tours were subsidized: the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (England, Belgium, Germany and Austria); the Royal Winnipeg Ballet (Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Cuba); the *Grands Ballets canadiens* (France); the Toronto Dance Theatre (England, France and Portugal); the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (Japan); and the Canadian Mime Theatre (England, Denmark, Bulgaria and France). It was unfortunate that the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, which had been scheduled to perform in China, had finally to postpone its tour at the request of the Chinese authorities. Besides these important tours, the Canadian Brass, assisted by a grant under the cultural exchanges program, gave performances in the Sainte Chapelle and on the Seine river-boats as part of the Paris Festival.

The Department's permanent collections of handicrafts, graphics and photography were shown in 13 countries in Europe, Asia, Latin America and the United States. In collaboration with the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of the Province of Quebec, the Department also presented a major

exhibition of the work of the painter, Jean-Paul Lemieux, in Moscow, Leningrad and Prague. The Department rendered assistance as well to the Royal Ontario Museum in connection with the exhibition of archaeological finds of the People's Republic of China held in Toronto from August to November.

Arrangements were made for the presentation of 43 collections of Canadian books, each comprising 150 French and English titles, to national and university libraries abroad. Collaboration with the Canada Council in the distribution abroad of Canadian books purchased by the Council as part of the Government's program of assistance to publishers was continued. Representatives of Canadian publishers associations received grants to enable them to participate in the international book fairs in Brussels and Frankfurt and by the American Library Association and the American Booksellers Association. The Belgian-Canadian literary prize was awarded to Réjean Ducharme of Canada.

In regard to film, Canada participated in three important events abroad during the year: the Cannes Film Festival, the Berlin Film Festival and the Fortnight of Canadian film in Sorrento. The latter was expanded to make it something of a mini-festival of Canadian arts by adding an exhibition of Canadian handicrafts, a concert by the Canadian pianist, Marek Jablonski, and an exhibition of Roloff Beny's photographs of Italy.

Academic and youth exchanges

The lively interest in university and educational activities abroad which has been evident in recent years was more than maintained in 1974 and exchanges between Canadian and foreign universities were increasingly frequent. Canada was also more active in international organizations concerned with education, such as the OECD, UNESCO and Commonwealth institutions.