

RTS

York's new murals are replacing the graffiti our tunnels are famous for.

New Murals Replace Graffiti

By PAUL GAZZOLA

There's something special about abstract art. It holds your attention and challenges you to understand its dark secrets and vibrant blitz of colours until, totally awestruck, you just have to scream, "What the hell is it?"

Fortunately, most of the new murals in the Complex One tunnel to Ross won't leave you with that reaction. The paintings — results of the mural contest initiated and sponsored by Founders College Council — are generally original and well done.

The purpose of the contest -

which ran from September 17 to October 5 — was to eliminate the extensive graffiti in the tunnels while allowing York artists to display their talent. The judging of the murals was delayed until last week to allow for late entries.

The winners are as follows: Most Traditional Representation of York — Rob Braken for "Monster Eating Ross Building"; Most Reflective of College Life — "Student Line-Up" by Mike Zickowski; Most Outrageous — "Crack in the Wall' by Anna Ditamasso; Most Lifelike — Derek Wessinger's "China Scene"; Most Original — "Lunatics" by Moses Bar-Yoseph; and Most Exotic — Carmela Catapano for "Girl on Tiger."

Prizes were donated by Dr. Labib, Grooves Records Store, and the York University Book Store.

Founders College Council President Dan Silver was disappointed that only four of 10 college and Fine Arts representatives sent judging forms — a pathetic response considering that the most strenuous task was a short walk through the tunnel.

For artists who were unable to enter the contest, there will be a second round in upcoming months. Now that the graffiti is gone, something has to be done about those clean, white walls.

Faculty goes French

By FARHAD DESAI

Who said that Canadian French culture was dead?

It certainly wasn't by anyone who attended last Thursday's concert of French music performed by York faculty members in the Fellows' Lounge at Atkinson College.

The large crowd was responsive to the chamber music. The programme, beginning with Francis Poulenc's "Sonata for Clarinet and Piano," featured Patricia Wait, principal clarinet of the Canadian Opera Company and the CJRT Orchestra, and Casey Sokol, a member of the Canadian Creative Music Collective, on piano. The piece, written in 1962, was a wonderful mix of traditional and modern music.

In the second movement ("Romanza"), Wait demonstrated how beautiful a clarinet can sound. Sokol's piano accompaniment was excellent. He and Wait listened to one another, keeping good balance in volume.

The second piece was "Trois Morceaux en Forme de Poire" by Erik Satie, a piano duet played by Casey Sokol and Christina Petrowska, who recently joined the faculty of music. With a strong melody throughout the piece, it was received well by the audience. A member of the audience commented "at times I forgot there were two of them playing."

Austin Clarkson, the faculty member who introduced the show, had an interesting story about the Satie piece. It was alleged that Claude Debussy, a well-known French composer, told Satie that his music lacked form. Satie then went home and write "Trois Morceaux en Forme de Poire." Directly translated this means "Three pieces in the form of a pear." The word "poire," incidentally is French slang for "nerd." Clarkson commented: "If it (story) isn't true, it ought to be."

The final piece, "Tarantelle for Flute and Clarinet," by Camille Saint Saens, was the highlight of the programme. Barbara Ackerman, principal flautist of the Canadian Opera Company, traded melodies with Patricia Wait (clarinet) while Christina Petrowska provided piano accompanied.

Vive la musique Française.

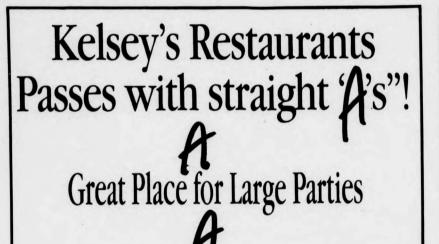
Van Halm at AGO

By CATHI GRAHAM

York professor Renee Van Halm, of the faculty of Fine Arts, spoke to the Toronto community at the Art Gallery of Ontario last Sunday.

As part of a series of artistic speeches, Van Halm drew a crowd of enthusiastic gallery goers. Highlighting the informal tour was a discussion of her own piece, "Upon Awakening She Becomes Aware." Discussing earlier influences of Italian historical painting, Van

Halm went on to talk about more current works. Her audience responed well, peppering the artist with questions.



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