

Canada's pavilion is number one at Expo '70



The stunning, mirror-sheathed national pavilion of Canada was honored on the opening day of Expo '70 this spring when Emperor Hirohito made his only visit to a foreign pavilion.

It was the first time in history that a reigning Japanese emperor had stepped on "foreign" soil, and it was

in response to Canada's decision to be the first country to agree to participate at Osaka, and for its role as host at Expo '67, which Osaka's planners acknowledge to be their model. Prime Minister Trudeau visits Expo '70 on Canada Day, May 27, at the special invitation of the Japanese Government.



Three Canadian provinces have their own pavilions. Each has received remarkable popular and critical acceptance. The British Columbia building, acclaimed the most original at Osaka, is a tower of rough-hewn Douglas fir logs. Ontario's structure has pipes suggesting smokestacks soaring from a two-box base holding a theatre and exhibit hall. Quebec has a three-level pavilion housing resource and industrial exhibits, and in the basement a *discothèque canadienne* hugely popular with Japanese youth.

The sloping, sparkling mirrors of Canada's national pavilion suggests aspects of the Canadian landscape—the mountains and Arctic ice, Prairie skies and sun-splashed lakes.

John Canaday, the *New York Times'* art critic, hails Canada's hall, roofed by five gay umbrella spinners, as the most successful of the national pavilions. Designed by the Vancouver firm of Erickson/Massey, the mirrors form a hollow, truncated pyramid around an open courtyard where open air performances are given by artists such as Les Feux-Follets, a highly original interpretive dance ensemble from Quebec, the Guess Who, a leading rock band, and Claude Léveill , a balladier and folk singer. (During Canada Week, May 24-29, the National Ballet of Canada, a company of 82, will present *Romeo and Juliet* and *Swan Lake* at the fair.)

Visitors to Canada's pavilion proceed underground to view five wordless films in three amphitheatres and then through the long exit hallway past a series of exhibits showing Canadian development.

"There you see a wonderful country in an absolute masterpiece of national presentation," say Mr. Canaday. "The Canadian pavilion theme, which is 'discovery', is amplified in the theme sentence, 'The vastness of our country, the diversity of our people, and the dynamics of change involve us constantly in discovery'." 

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