

CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE IN PARIS REOPENS

Since its inauguration in 1970, the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris (CCC) has dedicated itself to presenting and promoting internationally renowned Canadian artists as well as academics.

While continuing to fulfill that function, upon reopening on January 22, 1997, the CCC will also have a new direction and new objectives. The CCC will become Canada's showcase in France and Europe, with an added focus on Canadian creativity and expertise in the field of high technology. That is why the Canadian Cultural Centre in Paris has created a Centre for New Media (CNM), linked to the much-awaited Documentation Centre with an electronic network capable of providing information on a range of available databanks and CD-ROMS, the cultural services of the Canadian Embassy, which include the academic services and the Paris branches of Telefilm Canada, the National Film Board, and the National Archives.

The innovative feature of the Canadian Cultural Centre to be found on the ground floor is the Centre for New Media. Some of the most technologically advanced Canadian companies collaborated in the development of the CNM, including Teleglobe Canada, Alex Informatique and Public Technologies Multimedia Inc. This is a unique project forming the core of the Cultural Centre.

Canada is a leader in the field of multimedia. This is a reflection of the fact that Canadian creators and artists are at the cutting edge, using computer technology both for artistic purposes and as a working tool. The Cultural Centre will constitute a meeting point for high technology, our artistic and intellectual expression and our culture in all its diversity. As we spotlight the creations and products of our artists and cultural industries, we will also be showcasing the research and innovations of Canada's information technology industry.

New media is in a state of constant redefinition and informatics is developing at an accelerated pace. The concept of the Centre for New Media must therefore be very adaptable. The CNM's facilities are simple to use; they are open to the general public who will have access to on-site services that are linked to Internet and the virtual world.

BEAVER AWARD FOR CREATIVITY



Recipients of the Beaver Award for Creativity are Canadian Officers serving Abroad nominated by their peers in recognition of their contribution to the advancement of Canada's international presence through cultural and academic initiatives. The Beaver Award for the fifth issue of the publication goes to Ann Garneau, for her unfailing commitment and her work at the Canadian Consulate in New York City. Just before taking up her new post in Ottawa in September 1996, Ann was involved in organizing the projects "Music from the Rock - Newfoundland Canada" at the famous cabaret club Bottom Line in New York City followed by "Atlantic, Canada and Beyond!" project at the Lincoln Center Outdoor Festival on August 31, 1996. Her innovative approach to this project encouraged a host of new partnerships which made for an unprecedented synergy between cultural and tourism sectors as well as media both in New York and throughout Atlantic Canada. Those recent initiatives were characteristic of Ann's four years as senior cultural officer at the New York Consulate General. Congratulations and a special thanks to Ann from the Cultural Beaver!