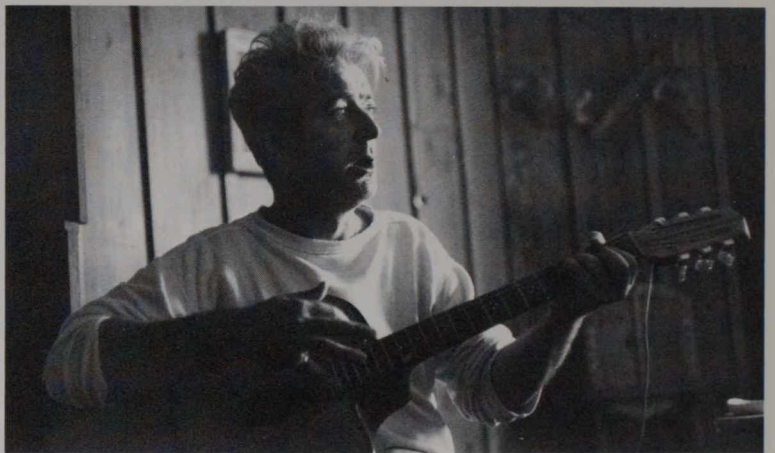




Three of Canada's top literary figures are at the top of the page. Michel Tremblay, the playwright, is a relatively recent arrival to fame. Marie-Claire Blais, author of *A Season in the Life of Emmanuel*, and Gabrielle Roy, author of *The Tin Flute*, are perhaps Canada's best known women writers.

At the bottom are two of Québec's celebrated chansonniers, Robert Charlebois and Felix Leclerc. Opposite is Edith Butler, Acadian folk singer.

suggests a topic in a letter which is hand-delivered, by a mutual friend, to Ducharme who says no. His works include *La fille de Christophe Colomb*, *Le nez qui vogue*, *L'Océantume* and *L'hiver de force*.

Michel Tremblay

[A MAN ON A JOUAL]

Michel Tremblay is 32 and a playwright. He has long hair, a full beard, round eyeglasses and a round face. He has written eleven plays in ten years in joul — the street language of Québec. (The word "joul" is the dialect pronunciation of *cheval*, meaning horse. In joul, for example, one would say "*slaquer quelqu'un d'la shop*" when speaking of a person being discharged from a job, instead of "*remercier quelqu'un de ses services*.") Tremblay's writing has touched on subjects that

many people find distasteful including incest and homosexuality. He has, nevertheless, achieved a great success, first throughout the Province, then in Paris, and, most recently, in Toronto and Ottawa where an English translation of *Hosanna*, the story of a transvestite, was received enthusiastically early this year. He followed his first success, *Contes pour buveurs attardés*, with a rapid sequence of other successes, including *A toi pour toujours*, *ta Marie Lou* and his most popular, *Les belles-soeurs*. His most recent is *Bonjour, la! Bonjour*, which had its world premiere at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa this summer. It is about a man of 25 who has an incestuous relationship with his 30-year-old sister. His choice of subject matter is not intended to be simply sensational: "*What I'm trying to say in Bonjour . . . is that a particular relationship is not necessarily ugly or shameful simply because our society says no.*"