

# News of the arts

## Canadian Indian art a hit in West Germany

A display of British Columbia Indian art — probably the largest ever seen in Europe — is a hit at Hamburg's Museum for Ethnology, says director Juergen Zwernemann.

"Germans are fascinated by Indians but their ideas came from the unreal world of prairie-tribe life depicted by German novelist Karl May," Mr. Zwernemann said.

"This exhibition has caused an astonishing echo among people who never realized that northwest coastal Indians have such highly developed art," the director added.

Some 40,000 people have visited the display, entitled *Thunderbird and Killer Whale* after the coastal tribal symbols. It opened May 4 and runs to October 31.

The 700 objects of Indian art and handicrafts are almost all on loan from Canadian and U.S. museums and private collections.

Totem poles, wooden masks, daggers, war clubs, utensils, jewellery, ritual rattles, leather dancing garb and even children's toys are on display.

Some are nineteenth-century antiques but many of the intricately-carved items

made in recent years reflect the new blooming of Indian art.

The exhibition was organized to commemorate the museum's one-hundredth anniversary. Curator Wolfgang Haberland made many of the selections during a ten-week trip to British Columbia and the United States last year.

The exhibit has been heavily publicized in newspaper articles in West Germany, drawing visitors from throughout the country. There also are many visitors from Scandinavia.

### Tribal dances

Ten members of the Kwakiutl tribe from British Columbia held tribal dances at the opening ceremony on May 4, appearing under the sponsorship of the Canadian embassy in Bonn. Ambassador John Halstead, the official patron, also attended.

The exhibit focuses on the Kwakiutl and neighbouring coastal tribes — Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, Bella Coola and Nutka.

The tribes had an artistic culture going back 3,000 years before their first contact with Europeans in the mid-eighteenth century.

## National Ballet of Canada in London



*National Ballet stars Frank Augustyn (left) and Karen Kain (centre) join in a conversation with Canada's High Commissioner in Britain Paul Martin during the Company's first season at Covent Garden in London, August 6-11 (see Canada Weekly dated August 22, 1979).*

## TV project for kids

Studio lights flick on, cameramen make last-minute adjustments to their equipment, the hosts fidget nervously in their chairs.

Another local television program — with a difference — is about to begin in Lethbridge, Alberta. The directors, cameramen, audio technicians even the fidgety hosts are all children. None is older than 13; some are only 9.

Eight Lethbridge youngsters are involved in creative TV through a project called Kids View Television, which began in April at Cablevision's community Channel 12 studio.

Cable 12 director Don Marshall and two assistants coached the group through its first program, an hour-long phone-in show with a city policeman and a Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer as guests.

But the assistance was for the first show only because, as Mr. Marshall says,

"The first show's always the worst — there are so many little things in TV that can go wrong".

That's not counting the sudden exit by one of the directors in mid-show to visit the washroom.

Kids View Television was actually started in Penticton, British Columbia by Mr. Marshall, when he was community channel director there.

"We adults have been telling the kids what they want," he says. This project "offers the students an opportunity not only to control what they see on television but to teach them how television can distort facts and ideas."

Mr. Marshall says that is particularly important since most children will have spent 4,000 hours in front of a TV set by the time they are seven years old.

The youngsters filled out a television questionnaire before the project started, and they will complete another one later to indicate whether their involvement has made them critical viewers.

## Arts briefs

The Canadian Film Awards (Etrogs) will be presented at the Royal Alexandra Theatre on March 20, 1980. The Academy of Canadian Cinema will control the awards for the first time; and for the first time they will be based on the American model. Organizers say that negotiations are under way with CBC and CTV for live broadcast rights. Non-feature awards will be presented at a luncheon the preceding day. The first annual meeting of the Academy takes place September 16 in Toronto.

A Boston musician recently won Montreal's international violin competition. Peter Zazofsky, 25, won the Grand Prix Florent Marcil, named for the late founder of the competition, and a cash prize of \$10,000. He also won a \$500 prize for best performance of François Dompierre's *Les Diableries*, a Canadian piece played by all 29 contestants representing 14 countries.