

News of the arts

Parliament chimes recorded

Gordon Slater, carillonneur for the Peace Tower on Parliament Hill, has recorded his first album, *Bells and Brass*, with the Canadian Brass quintet.

The carillon's 53 bells, ranging in weight from ten pounds to 11 tons, are so loud that Slater wears ear plugs when he plays. Gardening gloves protect his hands as he whacks the levels of the instrument. Above him, the 15-foot Peace Tower flag snaps in the wind, while Westminster chimes ring out from the tower clock every 15 minutes.

Recording of Slater's concert was done from the roof of the Parliament Buildings behind the tower, admitting sounds of chirping birds nesting up there. Canadian Brass provided background for the bells in a recording studio.

There are fewer than a dozen carillons in Canada and Gordon Slater got his training from his father, James, carillonneur at Metropolitan United Church in Toronto.

Theatre awards for fun

The Guild of Canadian Playwrights has picked the winners of its first annual Well-Deserved, Silly Year-End Awards, which were published recently by *The Globe and Mail*.

Canadian expatriate writer Bernard Slade took the Most Produced Canadian Play award for *Same Time, Next Year*. He won the Most Produced American Play award for the same play.

The Exercise in Futility Award went to the Canadian Playwrights' Action Group for "boycotting the Manitoba Theatre Centre for not doing Canadian plays".

Toronto Star critic Gina Mallet took two prizes: the Golden Eagle Award for "unfailing support of American plays produced by Canadian theatres", and the British Bulldog Award for "unfailing support of British plays produced in Canadian theatres".

The Queen Victoria Garter Belt Award was won by Montreal City Council for "its outright censorship of *Les Fees Ont Soif* at Theatre du Nouveau Monde".

The Honorary Maple Leaf Award was given to the Bathhouse Theatre in Seattle for "planning an all-Canadian season in 1979-80. Odds are that fewer than ten

Canadian theatres will qualify".

The Golden Spike Award went to "the arts councils who derailed the hit Newfoundland play, *Daddy, What's a Train*, by not touring it".

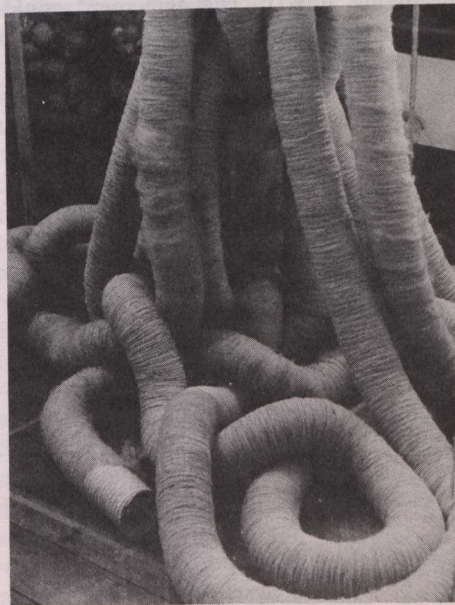
The Genuine Awards Awards went to "all those past and present who continue the work of building a vigorous repertoire of Canadian plays".

Visual arts in the Eastern Townships

The art gallery at the University of Sherbrooke Cultural Centre recently held an exhibition entitled "Visual Arts in the Eastern Townships", comprising some 120 recent works by 60 artists. It included examples of painting, sculpture, architecture, photography, sketching, engraving, wall hangings, enamelwork and graphic design from the region — which extends from Granby to Richmond and from Cherry River to Lake Mégantic. The hub is the city of Sherbrooke, located 179 kilometres east of Montreal.

An interesting feature of the exhibition was the "marriage" of the different artistic mediums favoured by the artists.

To facilitate communication between the artists and the public, a series of films on the artists, produced by students taking art and communication courses at Montcalm School, accompanied the exhibition. A slide show by André Cartier, of the University of Sherbrooke audiovisual centre, showed the artists in their work environment.



Pulsations 2, *Pierrette Mondeu*, 1978 (detail), wool.

Phillips named to Lincoln Centre

Robin Phillips of the Stratford Festival has been named to the artistic "director-ate" of New York's Lincoln Centre, joining Woody Allen, director Ellis Rabb, playwright Edward Albee, conductor Sarah Caldwell and Romanian director Liviu Ciulei.

The new group of co-artistic directors will probably not mount a production until 1980. A resident company will prepare works offering an alternative to Broadway and to New York's underground theatres.

Phillips, who will remain at Stratford, working on "one or two productions a year" for the Lincoln Centre, said "I'm absolutely intrigued by what they've come up with. It's a strange way of organizing, but it's going to be an exciting arrangement and I think it could do a lot to challenge my work here (in Stratford)."

"It's the concept we use in rehearsal: a lot of different people contributing. What they've done is taken that and spread it over the whole organization."

He added that his new arrangement might mean greater exposure for the Stratford Festival in the U.S. "There's no reason why it shouldn't," he said. "We use a lot of American actors, and with reciprocal Equity agreements, it's certainly a possibility."

Literature and young people

The Canadian Association for the Advancement of Literature for Young People, founded by individuals interested in books for young people, is publishing a review entitled *Des livres et des jeunes*.

The primary objective of the association, located at the University of Sherbrooke, Quebec, is to develop and support all activities promoting French literature for young people by:

- publishing the special review for teachers, parents and book experts;
- establishing a research and documentation centre;
- and informing, organizing and training human resources.

Des livres et des jeunes, which will have an initial circulation of 5,000 copies, will contain in its 40-odd pages items on dictionaries for the young and the choice of children's books, a bibliographical section, an editorial and articles.