

News of the arts

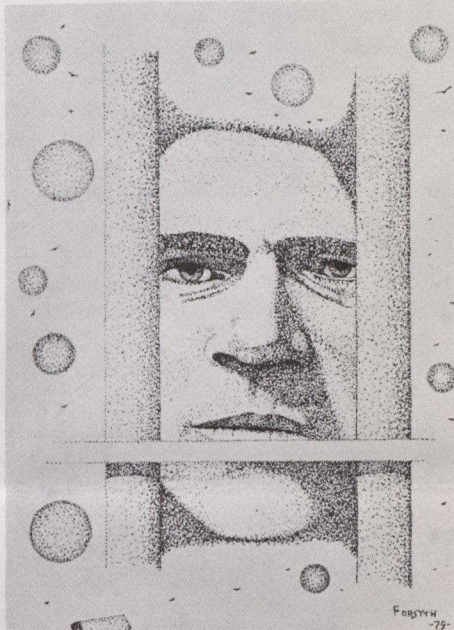
Prisoners art on tour

Prison Arts 80, a collection of inmate arts, crafts and music, is currently in the midst of a nine-month, cross-Canada tour. The tour began April 28 in Kamloops, British Columbia and will wind up December 13 in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

The exhibition is presented by the Prison Arts Foundation, a national charitable organization which promotes creative activities and programs for the incarcerated. Originating from a Christmas card design contest in 1969, the Prison Arts Foundation each year involved an increasing number of inmates in a variety of programs. In addition to the display of arts and crafts toured nationally there are projects in creative writing, music and drama.

The works in the exhibition are drawn from the annual arts competition which provides inmate artists, writers, musicians and craftsmen with awards of approximately \$5,000. These awards, provided by corporations and individuals who see creative activity as leading to the development of a concept of self-worth, are used by the winners to purchase art materials or to establish a fund for further education.

Arts 80 will be seen in approximately 90 communities and institutions during its tour across Canada. The exhibition formed part of a series of public functions marking the official closing of the



Solitary Man by R.C. Forsyth.

British Columbia Penitentiary earlier this year. It was also seen at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto and is travelling for the first time to Prince Edward Island this autumn.

Those viewing the exhibit will have the opportunity to bid on the works presented. Besides direct sales outlets arranged by the foundation, works in the tour are auctioned *en route* with successful bidders being notified at the end of the tour.

Canadian books distributed

Over 600 Canadian organizations have received kits of Canadian books from the Canada Council in 1980.

Among the groups receiving books are libraries in rural communities, prisons, senior citizens' clubs, cultural centres, hospitals, community groups, native peoples' associations, primary schools in remote areas and high schools that provide library service to their community. Recipients of the book donation program must be organizations with limited budgets for book-buying who make the books available to people in the community.

The books were purchased by the Council from 103 English-language and 51 French-language Canadian publishers. Recipients could request a kit containing 80 works of fiction, poetry and plays, 80 works of non-fiction, or 40 works of children's literature. Kits were available in

English, in French or in both languages.

The book donation program is designed to help both community groups and Canadian writers and publishers by providing high-quality Canadian books to areas of the country where they are not easily available. In collaboration with the Department of External Affairs, books are also distributed abroad.

Arts and crafts groups get grants

Secretary of State Francis Fox has announced the awarding of grants to the Canadian Conference of the Arts (CCA) and to the Canadian Crafts Council (CCC).

The Canadian Conference of the Arts will receive \$230,000 and the Canadian Crafts Council \$77,000 in order to help facilitate their ongoing operations.

The CCA is widely recognized as the major umbrella organization of the Canadian arts community. It represents the interests of approximately 500 arts organizations, and concerned individuals from all regions of the country, and from both official language groups.

Established in 1974, the CCC is a federation of provincial, territorial and sectoral associations, representing the interests of almost 30,000 crafts people across Canada. The CCC also serves as the Canadian representative on the board of the World Crafts Council and consults with the following federal departments: Secretary of State; External Affairs; Industry, Trade and Commerce; Finance; Employment and Immigration; Revenue Canada; Public Works; and Indian and Northern Affairs.

Chain of cinemas proposed

Cineplex Corporation, owners of an 18-theatre Toronto complex, announced recently it would expand into a national chain of multi-theatre outlets from Vancouver to Ottawa that would add nearly 100 new screens by 1981 and feature classic and foreign films.

The first complex in the 11-city expansion opened in Kitchener, Ontario on June 27 with six screens, and between 80 to 120 seats each theatre.

The next nine complexes are due to be completed throughout the fall, starting with Ottawa.



Crushed Flowers by Roy D. Kully.