

# communiqué

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## CANADA-BELGIUM LITERARY PRIZE AWARDED TO MARCEL MOREAU

The Department of External Affairs announces that the winner of the Canada-Belgium Literary Prize for 1977 is Belgian novelist Marcel Moreau. The \$2,500 prize will be presented in Montreal on April 16 at a reception at the Montreal International Book Fair.

The Canada-Belgium Prize is given annually to French-language writers with the award going in alternate years to Canadian and Belgian authors. It is given on the basis of an author's total literary output rather than for one particular publication. Co-sponsored by the Governments of Canada and Belgium, the Canadian portion of the prize is financed by the Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of External Affairs and administered by the Canada Council.

Laureates are chosen by a jury composed of members appointed by the Belgian Ministry of French Culture and by the Canada Council. The members of the Canadian jury this year were Madame Louise Maheu-Forcier and Messrs. Jacques Godbout, Gilles Marcotte, Jean-Guy Pilon and Naim Kattan. The Belgian jury was composed of Madame E. De Keyser and Messrs Jean Rémiche, Pierre Mertens, Charles Bertin, Léo Moulin and Jean Tordeur.

Born in Boussu, Belgium in 1933, Marcel Moreau's first novel "Quintes" appeared in 1962. Subsequent works by Mr. Moreau are: "Bannière de Bave" (1966), "La Terre infestée d'hommes", "Le Chant des paroxysmes" (1967), "Ecrits du fond de l'amour" (1968), "Julie ou la dissolution" (1971), "La Pensée mongole" (1971), "L'Ivre livre" (1973), "Bord de mort" (1974) and "Arts viscéraux" (1975).

Previous winners of this award are Belgian poet Géo Norge, who received the inaugural prize in 1971; Canadian poet Gaston Miron, recipient in 1972; Belgian writer Suzanne Lilar in 1973; Canadian novelist Réjean Ducharme in 1974; Pierre Mertens of Belgium in 1975; and, last year, Canadian novelist and playwright Marie-Claire Blais.

- 30 -

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