

A *nne of Green Gables* *Comes of Age*

The irresistible little girl who charmed television viewers around the world is now 18 and back again. The 1985 Emmy Award winning *Anne of Green Gables* mini-series has given rise to an equally enchanting sequel which, like its predecessor, has found an audience among adults and children the world over.

Both films are conquering markets everywhere. Already shown in Canada and the United States, *Anne of Green Gables: The Sequel* is scheduled to air in 77 countries. The original 1985 mini-series drew a record audience of almost six million and has raised high expectations for the five-hour sequel. Trudy Grant, president of Sullivan Films Distribution, says "virtually every country in the world that operates its own television station is rushing to broadcast this series."

The story of Anne Shirley continues as told in the three subsequent novels by Canadian author Lucy Maude Montgomery. A few changes were necessary for adaptation into one cohesive screenplay, but writer and director/producer Kevin Sullivan retained much of the original dialogue and many of the marvelous characters and incidents.

In the television sequel we again meet up with Anne, now a young woman employed as a teacher at Avonlea School, but still

dreaming of becoming a celebrated author and meeting her "ideal man." The mini-series follows Anne to Nova Scotia where she teaches at an exclusive private girls' school and gets into various scrapes and entanglements, only to return to Green Gables and find "true love" with Gilbert Blythe.

The sequel is a co-production of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC), the U.S. Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), the Disney Network and England's Channel 4.



Broadcast in the United States in 1987, the sequel has already won unanimous praise from critics as well as numerous awards. Among them are the prestigious Chicago International Film Award (The Golden Hugo), top prizes at the International Film and Television Festival of New York, the Canadian Film and Television Association Award, as well as the American *TV Guide* Best Family Series Award 1987.

