

UNIVERSITY

# NEWS BEAT

PUBLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS  
SUITE A, WEST OFFICE BUILDING. TELEPHONE 667-3441

## Unique style sets apart new Canadian magazine

Aimed to bridge the gap between the academic and the artist, a new magazine whose theme encompasses the whole of Canadian culture has recently been published.

In a style which can only be described as unique, members of the Border/Lines editorial collective have created a format which is both avant-garde and eighties.

Two years of development have gone into the first edition which had to overcome the

obstacles embodied in a collective organization and in a lack of financial resources. York has been instrumental in providing a nurturing environ for the fledgling publication through the provision of space and secretarial services, and along with some outside donations contributed the money needed to launch the project.

Border/Lines addresses the issue of Canadian culture and identity. It is a response to partial coverage in music/film magazines and general interest publications which do not recognize multiculturalism in their treatments of Canadian culture. The collective believes that the varied cultures define the essence of Canada and has attempted to capture snatches of this in "Letter from Yellowknife" and in other articles and reviews.

Its graphic style is distinctive and innovative. Says Professor Ioan Davies, member of the editorial collective, "A magazine which deals with Canadian culture should be a work of art."

Copies can be obtained in the York bookstore or by dropping by the Bethune college office, room 205, or by contacting Evelyn Greenberg at 667-6254.

### Prof. Verney accepts Fellowship award

Douglas V. Verney, professor of political science, has been awarded the 1984 Jules and Gabrielle Leger Fellowship.

This fellowship, administered by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, is awarded annually to an outstanding Canadian scholar, for research and writing on the role and function of the Crown and the Governor General in a parliamentary democracy. The award is worth \$20,000, plus up to \$5,000 for research and travel expenses.

## Graduate theatre company offers stimulating and intense programs

Destined for oblivion four years ago, the York Graduate Theatre Program has found new relevance under its current director Professor Ron Singer.

The program now centres on the study of styles and periods necessary to the training of theatre professionals who want to get out and work in today's Canadian theatre.

Singer describes the program as "stimulating, broadening, exacting and intense," and the busy schedule calls for students to be prepared to work six days and evenings a week.

The program currently has 16 participants including a play-

wright, eleven actors and four directors of whom three are women.

The program is unique in Canada while each U.S. state has dozens. For example, there are fifteen within several hundred miles of Los Angeles but only one other Canadian program, at the University of Alberta, where the focus is on directing.

Company members average thirty-two years in age and have been working professionally. They have returned to reassess their methods and to polish up areas where they lack experience. Some are here to re-evaluate their careers.

First year students do not per-



New curator Elizabeth McLuhan looks over York's 1.8 million dollar collection.

### Elizabeth McLuhan appointed:

## Art Gallery plans renovations

There are good things happening in York's Art Gallery and they include the selection of Elizabeth McLuhan as the new curator.

"It couldn't be a greater contrast from where I hail from," is how McLuhan, daughter of the media guru, describes York.

For the last three years McLuhan has been curator of the Thunder Bay National Exhibition Centre and Centre for Indian Art which is the largest gallery in northwest Ontario.

McLuhan has toured York's tunnels, and was quite surprised by the variety of art which has accumulated on the walls.

"It is a living and growing piece of art and a wonderful change from the bleakness of upstairs," she said. "You get the sense of

dialogue down there. It was one of the most invigorating art experiences since I got here."

Noticeable improvements are on the agenda for the Art Gallery. A new entrance on the back wall will make it accessible from the east corridor in Stedman Lecture Hall. A satellite gallery will be opened across the hallway along with office space and new storage facilities for York's 1.8 million dollar collection.

The new gallery space will be used to show selected pieces from our collection on a rotating basis and for other special events. Faculty of Fine Arts grad students will also use it for some of their own works and will benefit from the new opportunities the flexible facility will provide. Construction is planned to begin next spring.

McLuhan describes our gallery as "One of the best kept secrets on campus", but plans to improve its profile by offering a far ranging and eclectic show schedule.

"As a university gallery, being small scale, we can be innovative within the constraints of limited funding," said McLuhan. Plans are already in the works for two shows focusing on York's talent at two levels. We have an exceptionally talented Fine Arts faculty and one show will feature their work. The second will display the work of Fine Arts graduates who have gone on to win recognition for their artistic abilities.

There is a lot to do with running an art gallery that has little to do with art and McLuhan aims to establish a strong administration. But for now the gallery has only a part-time secretary to help with the day-to-day operation.

Another major area of concern has been acts of vandalism performed on some of the sculptures on campus. This has necessitated pulling some of the art inside leaving only the more durable pieces. This not only restricts people's enjoyment of the art but also the display of other pieces.

Storage space for York's collection has been tight. Controls for light, temperature and humidity have been marginally adequate but the new storage areas should provide for the better preservation of the collection and enhance its security.

McLuhan's own preference centres on non-western primitive art especially that of indigenous cultures throughout the world in the post-colonial period. In contemporary styles she is predisposed to "installation art," in which the whole space is modified to be part of the experience. The space is physically modified by the artist to make it a part of the art which integrates the show with the environment.

For McLuhan one of the major jobs in the upcoming session is to help the York community develop a sense of self-definition. "York is a community unto itself," and needs a mix of exhibits which reflect a broad range of art experiences," McLuhan emphasized.

**ART GALLERY  
OF YORK UNIVERSITY  
Exhibition Programme:  
Fall 1984-  
Spring 1985**

**The Compelling Image:  
Contemporary Japanese Posters**

Organized and circulated by  
the Gallery/Stratford  
November 22-December 4, 1984.

**Gerald Hushlak—  
Computer Works**

An exploration of  
computer programmed  
graphic images  
by an internationally known  
Canadian artist  
January 7-February 1, 1985.

**K.J. Butler:  
Art/Science Tables**

An encounter between  
creative imagination and  
scientific analysis  
February 11-March 8, 1985

**Adolphe Appia, 1862-1928:  
Actor—Space—Light**

A notable Swiss pioneer of  
modern techniques in stage  
setting and production  
March 8-April 12, 1985.

## Help available for northern studies

Are you interested in some aspects of northern studies? field-experience in Canada's north? a northern career?

"York University can help graduate and third or fourth year undergraduate students with an interest in the north," says Martin Lewis, professor of biology and chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Northern Studies.

"Each year York receives a

grant from the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs to support training of advanced students in such fields as the physical and life sciences and the political and social sciences."

Grants ranging up to \$3,000 are awarded to students undertaking research or professional training in the North (i.e., Northwest Territories, Yukon and the northernmost parts of the provinces) towards the cost of travel,

subsistence and freight.

"Last year York received \$44,000 and supported fifteen students," Prof. Lewis comments.

Applications for support for 1985-86 should be made to the Office of Research Administration (S414A, Ross) by November 23, 1984. Further details can be obtained from Prof. Lewis, Biology Department, 239 Farquharson, 667-6642.