

# News of the arts

## Show on rails

A performance during the fortieth anniversary season of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the English-language world premiere of Colin Higgins' *Harold and Maude* at the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton, Alberta, and the Vancouver Playhouse production of Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, are among the highlights of a special western Canada "show tour" train excursion being sponsored by the Shaw Festival, October 1-10.

The 2,000-mile train trip from Toronto, Ontario to Vancouver, British Columbia is the first such tour ever organized in Canada, says festival producer Richard Kirschner.

In addition to the theatrical events in Winnipeg, Edmonton and Vancouver, entertainers Dinah Christie and Tom Kneebone will accompany the tour, presenting three cabaret performances on board a specially arranged "show car". Their material will be based on stories like Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express*.

The Shaw train, consisting of sleeping and dining cars in addition to the show car, will be attached to regular cross-country trains, but will be self-contained. To provide the most scenic journey through the Lake Superior and Rocky Mountain regions, both Canadian National and Canadian Pacific routes will be used.

The special cars will accommodate 44 people at a cost of \$1,075 each, plus a \$50 tax deductible donation to the Shaw Festival. Included in the package tour price are: a send-off party at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto; train transportation from Toronto to Vancouver and return air fare; train accommodation in private sleeping cars; all meals on the train; deluxe hotel accommodation (price based on double occupancy; single supplement \$100) and hotel breakfasts; hotel transfers; all theatre tickets; tours and group parties, including Thanksgiving dinner in Vancouver, and a yacht cruise on English Bay.

The trip is the first event in a new series of Shaw Festival tours; a second show tour, as well as a trip to China are being organized for 1978-79.

For further information contact: Theatre Tours, Shaw Festival Theatre, Box 774, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, LOS 1J0 Canada.

## Commonwealth culture

An international photographic exhibition and a performance by a rip saw and calypso band from the Turks and Caicos Islands are some of the entertainment planned for visitors to the Commonwealth Games.

Festival '78, the Games' arts and culture program, began July 24.

About 400 performers from 25 countries will participate in the Commonwealth Carnival, one of the major projects of the festival.

Australia, Bahamas, Kenya, Fiji, India, Hong Kong, Ireland, Nigeria, Scotland and Zambia are sending performers.

The photography exhibition will feature 30 winning photographs chosen from more than 600 entries from 16 countries by world-renowned photographer Yousef Karsh of Ottawa.

Other entertainment arranged for the Games period includes:

- A five-day film festival, starting July 28, with the screening of *Sleeping Dogs*, a New Zealand political melodrama starring Warren Oates.
- "Crying" by Cockney town crier Alfie Haward, August 2-7.
- An exhibition of contemporary Alberta crafts.

## Canada Council's translation prizes

The Canada Council's translation prizes for 1977, each worth \$5,000, have been awarded to Frank Scott of North Hatley, Quebec, for *Poems of French Canada* (Blackfish Press) and Jean Paré of Montreal for *Grey Owl, l'homme qui voulait être indien* (Editions de l'Aurore), a translation of Lovat Dickson's *Grey Owl: Man of the Wilderness*.

### The winners

*Poems of French Canada* is a collection of translations made by Frank Scott from 1945 to 1965, based on the works of 11 Quebec poets.

Dr. Scott is known internationally as a constitutional lawyer, civil libertarian, teacher and poet. He was a member of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism from 1963 to 1971 and has served as editor of both scholarly journals and general reviews. He has published a number of works on constitutional law and politics and several

books of poetry, including translations of works by Quebec poets Anne Hébert and St-Denys Garneau. Dr. Scott is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a Companion of the Order of Canada, and holds honorary degrees from more than a dozen universities. He won the Canada Council's Molson Prize in 1965 and a Governor General's Literary Award this year for *Essays on the Constitution*.

Jean Paré, a journalist, editor, critic and former television host, is editor-in-chief of *L'Actualité* magazine. He has won several prizes for journalism, including the First Medal, Canadian Typographical Awards, in 1961 and a first prize for reporting from the Canadian Union of French Language Journalists in 1963.

He has translated several books by Canadian authors: *The Chief: A Political Biography of Maurice Duplessis* by Leslie Roberts; three works by Marshall McLuhan: *The Gutenberg Galaxy*, *Understanding Media* and *Counterblast*; and the *Scalpel and the Sword*, a biography of Norman Bethune by Sydney Gordon and Ted Allen, for which Paré won the Canada Council's translation prize in 1974.

## Award for NAC production

The National Arts Centre's Theatre Company has won an international award for its 1977-1978 production of August Strindberg's *The Dream Play*. Adapted for puppets and puppeteer-actors, the play was co-produced with the Tarragon Theatre (Toronto), the Vancouver East Cultural Centre and the Centaur Theatre (Montreal) with the assistance of the Canada Council Touring Office.

The award is sponsored by the Union internationale de la Marionnette-U.S.A. section (UNIMA-USA), which was founded in Prague, Czechoslovakia in 1929 and has since become a member of UNESCO. It has 2,000 members in 53 countries.

UNIMA-USA's awards committee tours North America every year to select performances of exceptional quality, which are brought to the attention of UNIMA members on other continents. *The Dream Play* was one of just eight North American productions chosen for this year's awards. A representative of the Theatre Company accepted the award at the national Puppeteers of America Festival, held in Texas from June 25 to 30.