

# News of the arts

## TV film examines the radical Sixties

The Company of Young Canadians (CYC) and the unique decade that it spawned are the subjects of filmmaker Donald Brittain's latest documentary, *The Children's Crusade*, aired recently on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) network.

Drop-outs, hippies and flower children were the names given to the radical youth of the Sixties. Their revolution grew out of a deep mistrust of the smug post-war, middle-class world in which they had been raised.

Against this background, in 1965, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson announced the creation of a Company of Young Canadians. This Crown corporation, with an annual budget of \$2 million, was to channel the energies of the young into social action and community development. On paper, it was government-subsidized revolution; in practice, it was doomed to failure from the start.

In *The Children's Crusade*, director-narrator Donald Brittain slices through the maze of confusion, mismanagement and political intrigue that plagued the company's first five years with an incisive commentary, and interviews with a number of its leading volunteers and organizers. He recreates the atmosphere of the Sixties through archival film of some of the CYC's most dramatic and highly publicized activities, including David Depoe's organization of the Yorkville hippie movement in Toronto and Bernie Muzeen's fight to save from expropriation a low-income community in Calgary, Alberta.

Despite the valuable work of CYC volunteers in remote, poor and disadvantaged communities all over the country, the increasingly flamboyant behaviour of some of the company's more radical members, particularly those in the Quebec wing, made the CYC increasingly a storm centre of controversy. In 1969, the government called a parliamentary committee hearing and placed the CYC under trusteeship.

Although the children's crusade did not survive the decade, it could be argued that the CYC, along with other young crusaders of the Sixties, broke the ground for the eventual formation of effective native associations, consumer pressure groups, tenants' associations, the anti-nuclear movement and the breakdown of repressive sexual and educational traditions.

## Canadian Inuit art tours US centres

*Arctic Vision*, a travelling exhibition of Canadian Inuit art is embarking on a tour that will include 12 museums throughout the United States. The tour is sponsored by Canadian Arctic Producers with the assistance of Canada's Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.



*Mosesie Kilola's Woman Stretching Boot.*

The exhibit is organized into six categories designed to describe Inuit life through the ages. It includes 37 prints and 38 stone sculptures as well as 14 reproductions of pre-historic artifacts which provide the visual link between past and present.

Supporting information consists of text panels, interpretive labels and a fully-illustrated catalogue.

## *Arctic Vision: United States itinerary*

May 13 to June 17, Roberson Centre for the Arts and Sciences, Binghamton, New York.

June 11 to September 2, Erie Art Museum, Erie, Pennsylvania.

October 23 to November 29, Bronx Museum of the Arts, The Bronx, New York.

December 27 to February 24, 1985, The Science Museum, West Palm Beach, Florida.

March 19 to April 23, 1985, the Museum of Arts and Sciences, Macon, Georgia.

May 19 to June 23, 1985, Columbus Museum of Arts and Sciences, Columbus, Georgia.

July 22 to August 26, 1985, Columbia Museums of Art and Science, Columbia, South Carolina.

September 21 to October 27, 1985, Cumberland Museum and Science Center, Nashville, Tennessee.

December 1, 1985 to January 5, 1986, The Montclair Art Museum, Montclair, New Jersey.

January 29 to February 28, 1986, Robert Hull Fleming Museum, The University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont.

March 29 to April 27, 1986, Guild Hall Museum, East Hampton, New York.

May 17 to June 26, 1986, The Edith C. Blum Art Institute, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York.



*Family Group, a carving from caribou antler and sinew by Romeo Erkerkuk (1974).*