

News of the arts

Theatre treat fit for a king

The 1978 Charlottetown Festival opened its summer season with an original Canadian musical production based on the love story that captivated members of the British Commonwealth in 1936.

David Warrack has based his book and music for *Windsor!* on the period during the abdication from the British throne of King Edward VIII, best known as the Duke of Windsor, and his subsequent marriage to divorcée Wallis Simpson.

The show, directed by Alan Lund and designed by Frances Dafoe, runs until September 2 at Confederation Centre of the Arts in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

"We've scanned the headlines of the day of his announcement, December 10, 1936," says executive producer Donald Grant. "It is amazing to see the drama in the headlines and news stories, drama which seems to exemplify the mood of the day, the shock felt by the British people and the interest aroused in people around the world."

Windsor is playing all summer, along with *Anne of Green Gables* and last year's hit, *The Legend of the Dumbbells*.

Photo exhibit in Dakar

Over 3,000 people visited an exhibition of the work of Canadian photo-journalist Antoine Désilets in Dakar this spring. The display, comprising a wide variety of photographs — about 250 in all — were taken in Canada and Senegal.

Mr. Désilets, who is from Quebec, is now working as a photography professor at the University of Dakar.

In 1963 he was chosen press photographer of the year by the Association of Press Photographers of Montreal; in 1965 he received the Player's prize for Canada for the best sports photograph; in 1966 he set a National Press Photographers' Association of North America (NPPA) record by winning the first four awards for the month of July; for two consecutive years, 1968 and 1969, he won the City of Montreal prize for the best photograph taken at Man and His World; in 1969 he was named press photographer of the year by the NPPA, and the list goes on.

In addition, Antoine Désilets has written five books: *Apprenez la photographie*, *La Technique de la photo*, *Je prends des*

photos, *Je développe mes photos*, *Photo guidée* and an album, *Insolences*, which has been translated into Spanish and English. He is also at present working with a team writing a photography encyclopedia.

The exhibition was covered in Dakar's newscast, which featured a long interview with Mr. Désilets. Dakar's *Le Soleil* commented: "Not everyone can be a good photo-journalist. It takes the sensitivity of a poet to be able to capture and then translate the message in a style of almost absolute perfection. Antoine Désilets is equal to this challenge."

The Canadian Embassy in Dakar, which participated closely in the organization of the exhibition, provided funding from a cultural activities fund administered by the Department of External Affairs.

Ottawa protects Canadian authors

Secretary of State John Roberts has announced that stores will be prosecuted if they sell books under Canadian copyright which were printed and published abroad. The books will be seized from wholesalers, retailers, public libraries and educational institutions except in cases when the legal Canadian edition has not yet been published.

Authors receive no royalties from these foreign-produced books, whose bargain prices cut into sales of Canadian-produced books that do pay a royalty.

Although the Federal Government previously prohibited the books' being sold in Canada in direct competition with Canadian editions, it was left to authors to initiate costly court action.

Young composers' award

A new award for students of composition at Canadian university schools of music has been created in memory of composer Robert Fleming. The first competition, open to one nominee from each institution, will be held next spring.

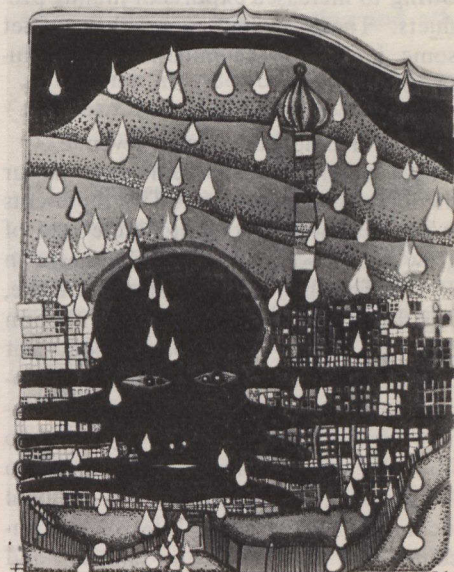
Robert Fleming, conductor, choir leader, organist and teacher, wrote music for over 250 films, as well as for ballet, symphony, band and chamber groups. A former director of music for the National Film Board, he was on the staff of the Music Department at Carleton University in Ottawa until his death in 1976.

Hundertwasser exhibition

The Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto is presenting the works of Austrian artist, Friedensreich Hundertwasser until July 31. The exhibition of paintings, models, tapestries and prints will then proceed to Budapest, Tehran, London, Rome and Madrid.

Hundertwasser, one of the best-known Viennese painters of the post-war period, whose style is said to have been influenced by the works of artists Oskar Kokoschka, Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, Paul Klee and René Bro, compares the process of painting to the process of dreaming and the art product to the "fruit of the dream". He says, "If a painter is not astonished by what he has painted, it is not a good picture. I want to be surprised by my own painting."

Though the exhibition at the museum is mainly paintings and prints, several interesting architectural models are also included.



Architectural model, Houses Hanging Underneath the Woodlands.

Arts brief

La Communiante, a painting by James Wilson Morrice (1865-1924) first shown in 1900 at the annual exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, was sold recently for \$98,000, the highest price ever paid for a painting in a Canadian auction. The previous record was \$50,000, paid for a canvas by Lawren Harris, founder of the Group of Seven.