

Hector Guimard (1867 - 1942)

At the Art Gallery of Ontario until November 9. 25¢ for students.

"The force that through the green fuse drives the flower." — Dylan Thomas

Banisters curl and twist beside staircases like wrought iron vines. Hector Guimard, the major French Art Nouveau designer captures the essence of vegetation — its strength, its tense assymetry — without copying the surface.

His iron stays iron — it is not flowers or leaves — only the stem remains. Cement no longer pretended to be stone, nor celluloid, ivory in Art Nouveau. The new aesthetic properties of the new materials were demonstrated in the Crystal Palace, the Firth of Forth Bridge and the Eiffel Tower.

Guimard tried to create the total work of art — not only the house, but the furniture, the wallpaper, the windows — even his doorbells were decorative.

Guimard designed 141 Paris Métro stations from 1900-1913, of which 91 still remain. Seven have been declared historical monuments. "Art Metro", it was called. The exhibition includes furniture, photographs, floor plans, small decorative items and graphics.

This sensuously controlled explosion is worth seeing.

In conjunction with
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Mashmakhan

in concert

Friday, October 30th

7:30 p.m. Adm. \$1

Tait McKenzie Gym
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Naked came Polonsky Ramsay Cook has pretty lips

I was at the rally, Monday afternoon.

I was also at The First National Youth Conference On Travel And Exchange held in Ottawa in the beginning of September. The organization of the conference was mediocre at best and various contingents at the conference wished to show quite dramatically their displeasure with the "whole mess". The two most vocal of these contingents were the group from Quebec and the group from British Columbia. On the second day of the conference, the Quebec delegation announced to the entire assemblage that they had decided to walk out of the conference and listed all the reasons which prompted them to make such a decision.

A few delegates responded with comments such as "Well, there go the French again" and "What the hell do they want anyway?"

The Quebec delegation should have been pleased with at least this derogatory response for their entire set of grievances and

recommendations were completely ignored by the group as a whole. The very next speaker stood up and rambled on about the legalization of pot despite the fact that the delegation representing a quarter of the youth in this country had just spoken of its intention to walk out of the conference.

There is no doubt in my mind that if the British Columbia group had stood up and reiterated the very same thoughts, the whole conference would have directed its full attention to what was being said. Despite the fact that the night before, while the B.C. group had occupied itself with getting drunk and stoned with the rest of the conference delegates, the Quebec group had had sat up the entire evening entrenched in an intense discussion on what action should be taken.

These 300 supposedly bright and aware representatives of youth in Canada, in their own latent bigotry, could not focus in on the real meat of what was being said but instead responded to the type of person who was doing the saying. The ideas and thoughts being put forward were ignored because of the listeners' bigotry towards who

it was that was expressing these thoughts.

This penchant for concentrating on the "utterer" rather than the "utterance" once again came into focus, this time at the rally held here on Monday. Professor and noted historian Ramsey Cook stood up and warned the audience of over-reacting to the crisis in a wild and emotional frenzy and of concentrating on the symptoms of the crisis rather than on the root causes. Professors Granatstein and Creal then stood up and reinforced the view that we must not discuss the issue in a vacuum but rather in the historical, political and economic realities of the Quebec situation.

All three speakers received quite enthusiastic ovations. We must examine the cause, not the symptoms. Right on! But the next speaker, may he strangle on his Karl Marx, was a Young Socialist. This Young Socialist did exactly what the previous three speakers had recommended. He talked about the causes. He was almost booed down. After all, this Young Socialist was no noted historian.

This reaction of bigotry towards some one spouting ideas straying from the accepted norm is perhaps a more subtle but just as imposing a threat to our democracy as the terrorism practised by the FLQ. Our bigotry towards people and ideas alien to our own, is a threat that must be combated.

But perhaps the most frightening thing of all, is that at that rally, just as at that youth conference held in September, I could not but help sensing a not too latent bigotry towards the people of the Quebec province — the French. I could not help but sense, as much as I really tried my best not to, that there existed a depressing undercurrent of hostility directed towards the French. They are an alien culture. They are different than we are.

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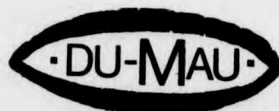
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