

News of the arts

Shakespeare and Shaw at Stratford and Niagara

"A richly textured season" is how director Robin Phillips describes the 1980 Stratford Festival program which began in June and runs through to November 8 in Stratford, Ontario.

Offered this year are well-known Shakespeare plays (including productions from the 1979 season) and some of his less frequently performed works; new versions of two classic comedies from Europe; a ballad opera; two world *premières* of new plays; and works of the contemporary stage.

The list of plays is: *Twelfth Night*; *The Beggar's Opera* by John Gay; *Henry V*; *Virginia* by Edna O'Brien (world *première*); *Titus Andronicus*; *The Servant of Two Masters* by Carlo Goldoni; *The Gin Game*; *Much Ado About Nothing*; *Bosoms and Neglect*; *Brief Lives*; *Foxfire* by Susan Cooper and Hume Cronyn (world *première*); *The Seagull*; *Henry VI*; *King Lear*; and *Long Day's Journey Into Night*.

The acting company at Stratford includes: Brian Bedford, Hume Cronyn, William Hutt, Richard Monette, Douglas Rain, Kate Reid, Maggie Smith, Jessica Tandy and Peter Ustinov.

Three Shaw plays, with dramas by Chekhov, Feydeau and Bertold Brecht



CP laserphoto

make up the season at this year's Shaw Festival, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

There are three theatres: Festival, Court House and Royal George, providing over 1,400 seats. The theatres are near each other in this town which retains the style and architecture of seventeenth-century Upper Canada.

Plays featured are: *Misalliance*, *The Philanderer* and *Overruled* by Shaw. Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*; Georges Feydeau's *A Flea In Her Ear*; Gyula Hernady's *The Grand Hunt*; Bertolt Brecht's *A Respectable Wedding*; John Bruce Cowan's *Canuck*; the music and lyrics of Irving Berlin in *Puttin' On The Ritz*; and Heath Lambert's *Gunga Heath*.

Dancers win again

Evelyn Hart, a dancer with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, has won a gold medal at the International Ballet Competition in Varna, Bulgaria.

Miss Hart, named best female dancer in the classical and modern ballet category, is the first Canadian to win the top award.

Another company member, David Peregrine, won a bronze medal for individual male dancing. Mr. Peregrine was Miss Hart's partner in the competition. Earl Stafford, the company's principal pianist, won a gold medal for his accompaniment. One of the pieces performed by Miss Hart and Mr. Peregrine, a modern *pas de deux*, won a gold medal for choreographer Norbert Vesak.

The competition featured 75 pairs of dancers from around the world. In May, the two dancers won a bronze medal at the World Ballet Concours in Japan.



Evelyn Hart and David Peregrine in the pas de deux from Don Quichotte, performed at the competition in Varna.

Arts briefs

Acadian author Antonine Maillet received the Officier des Palmes Academiques recently from French Education Minister Christian Beulac. The award recognized Mrs. Maillet's contribution to the preservation of Acadian culture.

The 1981 Juno Awards, the Canadian music industry's annual celebration, will be held February 5 in Toronto. The awards ceremony will be televised by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

An award, to be given annually for the next three years for the best new Canadian musical, has been announced by the Fathers of Confederation Buildings Trust. The Eric Harvie Award for Musical Theatre, budgeted at up to \$10,000, will give \$1,000 each to the author and the winning theatre. The aim is to develop new Canadian musicals for presentation at the Charlottetown Festival in Prince Edward Island.