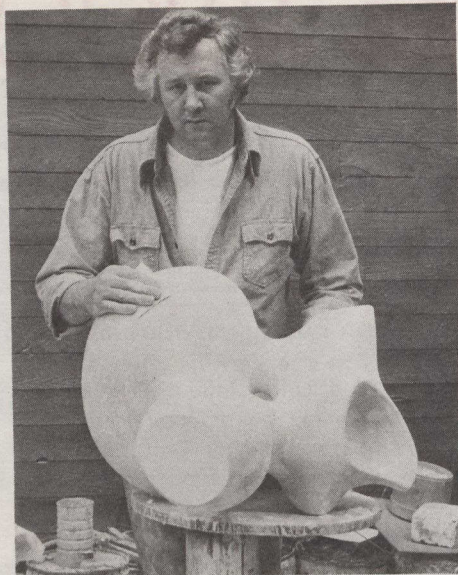


the National Film Board (NFB), the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) and the National Arts Centre (NAC).

The report contends that, despite the very large budget and the production of films that have brought the NFB worldwide acclaim and several Oscars, "output of new work no longer represents a significant film experience for the Canadian public". NFB shorts and documentaries, which are so much a part of Canada's cultural lore, "are seldom shown in Canadian theatres" or on television because theatre owners and program directors do not see any audience demand for them. As a result, the report recommends that the NFB end its film-making business and transform itself into "a centre of advanced research and training in the art and science of video and film production".



*Bob Dow-Reid, sculptor.*

and productions from other countries. It should forego in-house productions of theatrical and operatic works in favour of co-productions with other Canadian companies". The report argues that an engagement at the Centre should "become a confirmation, a high point, in the careers of individuals and companies". And it concurs with a brief it received from NAC officials who recognized "a particular responsibility to arrange for the exhibition of the most creative and technically accomplished work being carried out in the performing arts".

#### **Contemporary arts centre**

Concerning contemporary visual and applied arts in Canada, the committee strongly recommends the establishment of a Contemporary Arts Centre and a Canadian Council for Design and the Applied Arts.

The Contemporary Arts Centre would come under the National Museums Corporation in Ottawa. Its mandate would be to collect and exhibit all forms of "contemporary creativity" from paintings and sculpture to the applied arts — crafts, design and architecture. It would incorporate several existing federal collections such as the National Collection of Contemporary Indian Art assembled by the Museum of Man, unrentable works from the Art Bank, the NFB's Still Photo Division and the National Capital Commission's sculpture installations. The centre would buy outstanding contemporary works, both Canadian and foreign; conduct a touring program; organize and fund exchanges of art and artists inside Canada and abroad; and work "in co-

operation with the network of artist-run centres across the country". It would conduct research, engage in publishing and distribute reproductions for educational purposes.

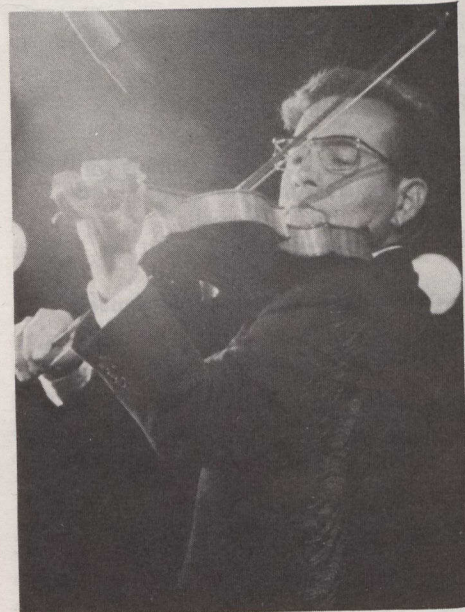
The Council for Design and the Applied Arts would expand the programs currently conducted by the National Design Council and Design Canada. One of the important functions of the proposed council would be to sponsor design competitions and support the development of product prototypes. It would compile open lists of professional artists and designers available to both the private and public sectors, act as a liaison between applied artists and industry, sponsor research and consult with professional associations. In addition the council would see to it that federal public buildings had examples of contemporary Canadian art



*Frank Mills, pianist.*

Arguing that the CBC relies far too much on "in-house services", the committee recommends that it stop all television production, except for news and current affairs, and buy its future Canadian programming from private producers. It also suggests that CBC-TV runs a risk of being too much a carbon copy of US commercial television unless it discontinues commercials and affiliation agreements with private commercial stations. In addition, the report suggests the CBC take over the distribution of the NFB's vast library of films.

For the NAC in Ottawa, the report proposes the adoption of "a policy of showcasing the best available Canadian talent and productions in all the performing arts, in addition to outstanding artists



*Ti-Jean Carignan, fiddler.*

and design inside them by providing "expert consultation services to all federal departments involved in building, leasing and renovation projects".

In support of contemporary visual arts, the report also recommends that tax incentives be given for the private purchase of contemporary art.

The creation of a Canadian Heritage Council is suggested to safeguard the legacies of the country's past.

#### **Additional funding**

One of the major recommendations in the report is that there be increased government spending for culture. The federal government now devotes about \$1.2 billion annually to cultural activities in the broadest sense. According to the