

point distress calls within two hours over the entire North Atlantic. The UK Mission Control Centre at Plymouth can then direct search parties to the distress site.

The UK firm – Space Technology Systems Ltd – is acting as the prime contractor responsible for project management, customer liaison, and post-installation operation and maintenance. Canadian Astronautics has formed a UK subsidiary, Caltronic Ltd, to assist in the post-installation activities, service the company's products in Europe and seek development contracts this side of the Atlantic.

Culture

Exhibition focuses on the apocalyptic vision of a Montreal artist

Sixty-five is an age when most people opt for a more leisurely pace, but this is not the case with Betty Goodwin, one of Canada's foremost women artists and holder of the 1986 Prix du Paul Emil Borduas.

An exhibition centred around one of her recent major works – *Carbon* – opens in the Canada House Gallery later this year. The work is a 9ft by 30ft mural in which figures done in an almost incinerated black struggle painfully to carry others.

The turning point in Betty Goodwin's artistic development came in 1968 when, in her late forties, she studied etching with the Montreal painter and print-maker Yves Gaucher. This led to a series of *Vest* prints, created by placing men's vests under great pressure in a soft-ground etching press.

More recent work includes her *Swimmer* drawings and *Red Sea*, which was inspired by a press photograph of two murdered Dutch journalists in El Salvador. Themes of loneliness, violence and alienation crop up again and again in her work with startling intensity.

Young Canadian musicians make promising debuts on South Bank

This year Canada House is sponsoring a number of recitals in the Purcell Room (on London's South Bank), which have provided British concert-goers with an opportunity to hear some of Canada's most outstanding young musicians.

The first artist to appear in the Canada House Debut Series was the talented flautist from Toronto, Marina Piccinini, who performed works in January by Mozart, Prokofiev, Boulez, Schumann, and Francois Borne.

In February it was the turn of baritone Mark Pendrotti, who has already made his mark in opera and oratorio and as a recitalist. He has performed twice in the Carnegie Hall with the Opera Orchestra of New York, sung in concert with the Mozarteum Orchestra in Salzburg, and recently made his debut with the New York City Opera in *Die Fledermaus*. His recital on the South Bank included works by Gounod, Tchaikovsky and Wagner, as well as Canadian folk songs arranged by John Beckwith.

The third performer in the series was Quebec-born Angele Dubeau, who performed violin sonatas by Leclair, Fauré and Debussy, together with Stravinsky's *Suite Italienne*. Miss Dubeau is no stranger to the international concert platform. She has won numerous competitions, toured Europe and Japan, and performed with several orchestras, including the Montreal Symphony, the Bucharest Philharmonic and the Tokyo Philharmonic.

History

Sotheby's auctions journals of pioneer Arctic explorer

A reminder of Canada's pioneering past occurred recently in Sotheby's auction rooms when the journals of Sir Alexander Mackenzie came

under the hammer.

Mackenzie was a British explorer who in 1789 made a journey to the Arctic delta and the bay which now bears his name. He had been commissioned to explore uncharted areas to the northwest of Lake Athabasca by a fur company that was trying to break the monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Co.

Exploration in those days was a difficult and dangerous task, and the party was beset with problems of illness as well as perilous crossings of thin ice and swiftly flowing rivers. Undeterred by the experience, Mackenzie later led an expedition over the Rockies to the Pacific Coast, becoming the first European to reach the western seaboard overland. He arrived on July 22, 1793.

Mackenzie's journals, which sold for £1,450 to an unknown buyer, include daily reports of his journeys and three large folding maps. There are detailed accounts of the terrain, climate and vegetation, and also of the Indian groups he met.

People

Britons honoured by Canadian Award

Four Britons received awards from the Canadian High Commissioner recently in 'recognition of their outstanding contribution to the special relationship between Canada and the United Kingdom'. A fifth

award was made posthumously. They are the first recipients of the High Commissioner's Awards initiated by H E Mr Roy McMurtry.

The awards go to: *Lord Trend* (posthumously), former Secretary of the Cabinet and Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford, 1973 to 1983; *Lt Col Sir Martin Gilliat*, GCVO, MBE, Private Secretary to H M Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother since 1956; *Mr Roger Wain*, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive of Laurentian Group Corp of Canada, and immediate past president of the Canada-UK Chamber of Commerce; *Mr Wolf Luetkens*, journalist with the Financial Times, 1958-1987; and *Mr Cedric May*, Lecturer at the Department of French, University of Birmingham from 1964, Director of Canadian Studies from 1983, and an expert on Quebec literature.

Mr McMurtry said, 'Canada and the United Kingdom share a unique historical relationship. This award program reflects the importance Canada attaches to maintaining and strengthening it. This year's recipients have made major contributions to the heightening of understanding and interaction between our people and countries'.

The awards will be made annually to British citizens.



H E Roy McMurtry with the 1988 High Commissioner's Award winners.