

The Bay Boy tops the list of Genie awards

The Academy of Canadian Cinema awarded *The Bay Boy* the best picture honour for 1984 along with five other Genies during the annual ceremonies in Toronto to acknowledge contributions to the Canadian film industry.

The John Kemeny-Denis Heroux production set in 1930s Cape Breton, won the best screenplay for Daniel Petrie's original script based on his memories of his boyhood in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. The screenplay award was accompanied by a \$10 000 honorarium.

Other Genies awarded for *The Bay Boy* included: best supporting actor for Alan Scarf's portrayal of a small-town police sergeant; best art direction to Wolf Kroeger; best costume design to Renée April; and best sound editing to Charles Bower and Peter Burgess.



Téléfilm Canada

Louise Marleau, the best actress winner, in a scene from *La Femme de l'hôtel*.

Mario, produced by Hélène Verrier and Jean Beaudin, which deals with a mute youngster living in his own world of make-believe, placed second in academy voting with three Genies. Pierre Mignot won for top cinematography, Bruce Nyznik, Richard Besse and Hans Peter Strobl for best over-all sound production and the best music score was composed by François Dompierre.

The best actor award went to Gabriel Arcand for his popular portrayal of the title character in *The Crime of Ovide Plouffe*, and best actress went to Louise Marleau for the inconsolable actress in *La Femme de l'hôtel*. Supporting actress was Linda Sorenson in *Draw!*

La Femme de l'hôtel took one other Genie, for best original song, *Touch Me*, sung by



Kiefer Sutherland and Leah Pinsent in a scene from *The Bay Boy*, Canada's best picture of 1984.

Quebec pop artist Veronique Beliveau.

Micheline Lanctot was named best director for her film *Sonatine* and André Corriveau received the film editing award for *La Guerre des tuques*.

In theatre documentary, Wayne Arron and David Harel received the award for *Raoul Wallenberg: Buried Alive* and Jon Minnis received the theatrical short award for *Charade*.

Special awards were presented to director Ivan Reitman for his contributions to film comedy; Paul LeBlanc for outstanding hair and makeup design; and producer-film editor Don Haig for over-all contributions to film-making.



Best actor Gabriel Arcand holds his Genie.

Opera première in Europe

The Canadian Opera Company (COC) presented its production of *La Belle Hélène* at the Netherlands Opera in Amsterdam on March 15. The occasion marked the first presentation of a production created by the company on a European stage in its 35-year history.

Jacques Offenbach's *La Belle Hélène* is a rollicking tale of the amorous adventures of Helen of Troy. The acclaimed COC production premiered at the O'Keefe Centre in Toronto in January 1983 and has since been presented at the Washington Opera.

La Belle Hélène was directed by COC General Director Lotfi Mansouri, who staged the production in Toronto. It featured sets and costumes created for the COC by Thierry Bosquet, lighting created by Michael Whitfield, who served as lighting designer for the COC's Toronto production, and choreography recreated by Margo Sappington.

In recent years, COC productions have been presented on stages throughout North America. *Anna Bolena* has been presented in San Francisco and Detroit; *The Merry Widow* in Chicago, San Francisco and Houston; *Falstaff* at the Washington Opera; *Un Ballo in Maschera* in Fort Worth; *Lohengrin*, *Don Giovanni* and *The Flying Dutchman* at the Edmonton Opera; *Rigoletto* in Winnipeg, Edmonton and Hamilton; *Cinderella* at the San Diego Opera; and *Don Carlos* at the San Francisco Opera. In upcoming months, *Otello* will be staged in San Diego; *The Merry Widow* at the Tulsa Opera; and *Anna Bolena* in Chicago and Houston.

Mr. Mansouri has been a frequent guest director with the Netherlands Opera, previously staging *Capriccio*, *Tosca*, *Carmen*, *La Vie Parisienne* and *Arabella*. The latter two productions were also specially designed for Mr. Mansouri by Mr. Bosquet. The two have recently collaborated on a new production of *The Mikado* for the New York City Opera, which will be presented by the COC in January 1986.

Soviet wildlife series

Primedia Productions Limited of Toronto, Ontario is currently in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics filming a series on Soviet wildlife. Filming began in October 1984 in Moscow, and is scheduled for completion this spring.

The Russian Adventure is the working title for the series, which will be shown on television early in 1986. It has been presold to CBC, TVOntario, Britain's Channel 4, and

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