

## Pilot science-fiction adventure planned for U.S. TV

A pilot episode of a science-fiction television adventure series, tentatively titled *U.F.O. Kidnapped*, will be produced this summer by Carleton Productions of Ottawa for nationwide cable distribution in the United States.

Veteran TV producer Roger Price is the show's creator. Price, who also produced *You Can't Do That On Television*, would not reveal the new show's storyline but said it would emphasize sophisticated video special effects.

The show will be shot at the studios of CJOH-TV and will be entirely the work of area actors and technicians.

The show was sold to Warner Amex, a U.S. pay-cable company that has agreed to underwrite half the \$300 000 production cost of the pilot. If accepted as a series it would begin a 26-episode season in September 1983 at a cost of \$120 000 an episode.

## Varied music program offered

The Guelph Spring Festival celebrated its fifteenth anniversary this year with another successful program of Canadian and international music.

Over the years, the festival has an impressive record of staging operas, bringing outstanding international artists to Guelph in southern Ontario and regularly commissioning new works.

"We stick mainly to music," said artistic director of the festival, Nicholas Goldschmidt, "because we do not want to enter the field of theatre, except for special occasions, since the Shaw and Stratford theatre festivals are so close to us."

Sponsored by the Edward Johnson Music Foundation, formed in memory of the Metropolitan Opera tenor who was born in Guelph, the festival also features major musical competitions with \$13 000 in prizes being awarded this year.

## Six premières featured

Opening with *The Glory of Bach* featuring Andrew Davis as harpsicord soloist and conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the 1982 festival presented six premières: the Canadian première of Smetana's sparkling comic opera *The Two Widows*; the first recital in Canada by Metropolitan Opera soprano Gilda Cruz-Romo; the first Canadian perform-



Andrew Davis

ance by the Smithsonian Jazz Repertory Ensemble; and the first performances of commissioned works by Canadian composers Oskar Morawetz, Talivaldis Kenins and Ruth Watson Henderson.

Other performances at the festival included the Borodin String Quartet from the U.S.S.R.; the Boston Symphony Chamber Players; the Waverly Consort from New York; Canadian pianist Arthur Ozolins; the York Winds Ensemble; the Famous People Players and the National Tap Dance Company.

The festival closed with a gala choral concert conducted by Victor Martens, which celebrated the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of St. George's Anglican Church in Guelph.

## Play staged to celebrate Rideau Canal's anniversary

*The Rideau Café*, a musical play celebrating the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the completion of the Rideau Canal is being staged in various locations in Ottawa this summer by the Sock 'n' Buskin Theatre Company of Carleton University.

Funds for the project are being provided by the Rideau Canal 150 Committee, Carleton University's Student Association and Sock 'n' Buskin, with Theatre Ontario contributing the services of the director, Jim McNabb, as part of their talent bank. Wintario is also expected to make a grant.

The play, presented in the vaudeville tradition, depicts the lives and times of

those involved in the construction of the canal from 1826 to 1832, from Momma Firth's Dancing Girls to Colonel By's Royal Engineers.

The show has a book and lyrics by David N. Fanstone, with music and additional lyrics by Norman Nurmi. The cast of seven has done extensive research to ensure historical accuracy in their work.

## Arts briefs

**Encyclopedia of Music in Canada**, the first standard reference work on Canadian music, edited by Helmut Kallmann, Gilles Potvin and Kenneth Winters, has been published by the University of Toronto Press. It is a comprehensive volume covering the entire range of Canadian music — classical, folk and popular — with entries on people, groups, institutions, theatres and societies, among many other categories.

**A French-language short film**, produced by Quebec filmmakers Pierre Falardeau and Julien Poulain, has won the grand prize at the prestigious short-film festival in Lille, France. The film, called *Elvis Gratton*, is about a garage owner who is an Elvis Presley fan.

**The Banff Centre school** has announced the establishment of a \$50 000 scholarship for the performing arts. Three Sir Mark Turner Memorial Scholarships will be awarded each year to outstanding young artists from Britain who have been accepted to study at the Banff Centre. Turner was chairman of Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation of London, England — the parent company of Rio Algom Limited, the firm which will provide one of the scholarships. The other two will be established with funds from the provincial government.

**An Ottawa recording company**, Marc Productions has recorded *Song for Terry*, composed by Dr. Pierre Turgeon, a University of Ottawa professor. The record, featuring members of the National Arts Centre Orchestra and local musicians, is sung by Rob Valiant of Montreal. Proceeds from sales of the record will go to the Canadian Cancer Society.

**The Montreal Symphony Orchestra** conducted by Artistic Director Charles Dutoit, has won the 1982 grand prize of France's Academie Charles-Cros for its recent recording of Ravel's symphonic suite *Daphnis et Cloe*. The recording was made and issued by England's Decca Records.