

## Our Town

### Artist as Woman

Stong College presents the first event in the series "Portrait of the Artist as a Woman" on Tuesday, October 14, in Sylvester's (201C Stong).

Joan Pelletier singing from the poems of Emily Dickinson set to music by Aaron Copeland.

Readings: Elia Bobrow from her epic poem "Irina Istomina". Margarita Pelicano reading from her "Window of the Sea". Admission is free.

### G.A.Y.

G.A.Y. coffee house on Wednesday October 8 from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Senior Common Room, 305 Founders College. Informal lunch at Ainger (Calumet College) on Tuesdays, 12 to 1 p.m. All gay men and lesbians are welcome.

### Multicultural Film Festival

Tini zabutykh predkiv (Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors) will be presented Wednesday, October 15 at 7:30 pm, in Curtis L. Ukrainian with english sub-titles. Guest speaker will be Marco Carynnyk, poet, author and scholar.

### York Christian Fellowship

The York Christian Fellowship presents: "Christianity and Scholarship", with Brian Walsh and Bruce Clemminger of the Institute for Christian Studies. Wednesday, October 15, 6:30pm, iinin room S872 Ross. All welcome.

### NDP Club

The next meeting of the York NDP club will be on Wednesday, October 2, at 4 pm in S717 Ross. All are invited to meet guest speaker Fred Young, MPP.

### Uruguay Theatre

The El Galpon experimental theatre company will be performing on October 19 and 22. The first performance will take place at 7:30 pm at 121 Avenue Road. It will feature Mario Benedetti's "Pedro y el Capitan".

The second performance will take place at York's Burton Auditorium, at 7:30 pm. "Voces de Amor Y Lucha" will be presented.

Tickets for both performances are \$7.50, and are available at the door.

More on page 2.

## Pitman - regional and universal

### Eugene Zimmerebner

Al Pitman, one of Canada's outstanding poets, makes some Newfoundlanders just a little edgy, a little touchy. Not because he's an outsider, but because he's one of them, one of the bearers of the Newfoundland experience.

The six-foot, lanky Newfoundlander with long black hair and beard, possessing that distinctive Newfoundland accent, was born forty years ago at St. Leonard's, Placentia Bay. Married with two children, he now lives in Corner Brook and teaches English at Memorial University of Newfoundland.

But Pitman is by no means an exclusively regional poet. This was evident when he read a selection of his poems at York University last Thursday to kick off the second season of the York Poetry Series. The poem, dealing with universal human experience, ranged from the humorous, the bawdy, all the way to the tragic.

While his poems stand on its own merit, Pitman's readings lend the poems extra power with his low, moody voice. Eli Mandel, Canadian poet and York University English professor, who introduced Pitman, said his voice "had a mournful tone." It was like a tugboat's horn seeping out of a thick fog.

The readings came from his

fourth poetry book, the recently published, *Once when I Was Drowning*. He has also just completed his second play which is about to open in St. John's, "West Moon". Pitman is hopeful that the play will open in Toronto in the future. His second children's book, *One Wonderful Fine Day For A Scolpin Named Sam*, is about to hit the stands.

Yet, for all of his artistic output, Pitman has made some Newfoundlanders uncomfortable and helped heat up a debate with a single poem entitled, "Shanadithit". Shanadithit was the name of an Indian woman who was the last surviving member of the Beothuks Indians, which once lived in Newfoundland before they became extinct.

Pitman said he wrote the controversial poem to try and describe a love relationship he has with Shanadithit, who died almost 150 years ago. It is not a love of a woman, but the love of a martyr, the last of her people. He also tries to articulate the guilt of

knowing that his ancestors were responsible for the extinction of the Beothuks.

Critics say that Pitman is only perpetuating a myth in his poem. It wasn't the fault of the white men that the Beothuks disappeared.

Sitting down and flicking a cigarette between his fingers, he refused to be specific about what exactly happened on his search, but he did say, "I didn't change my mind. I still don't believe it is a myth that the European whites wiped out the Beothuks."

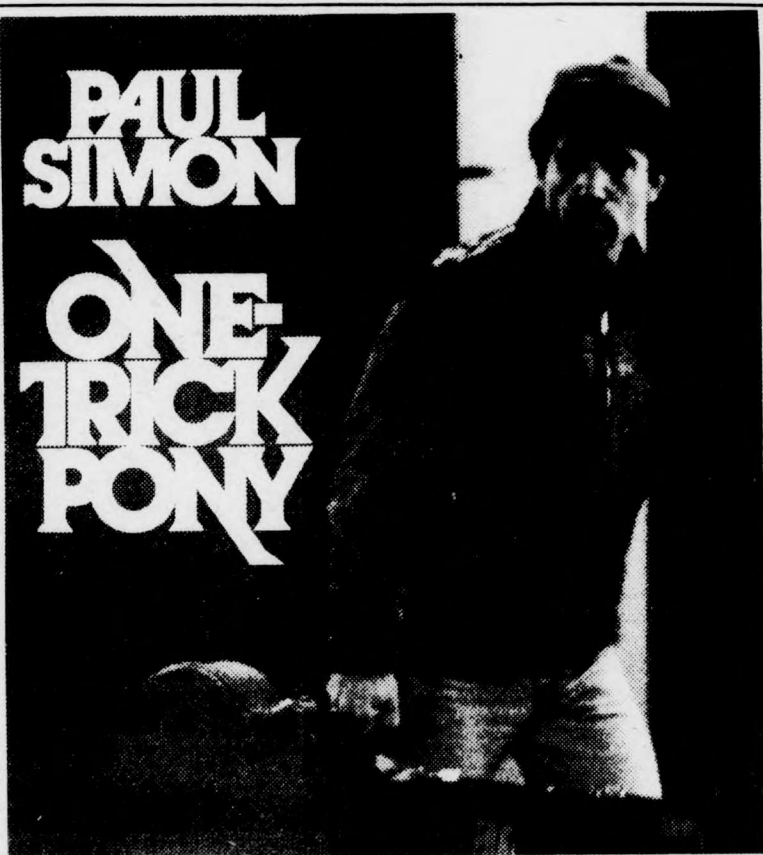
He believes Newfoundlanders want to forget about the issue and not admit that their ancestors were responsible for genocide.

"Not enough time has passed to allow the Germans to forget what they did to the Jews," said Pitman. "There has also not been enough time passed to allow Newfoundlanders to forget what our ancestors did to the Beothuks."

Pitman and "Shanadithit" won't allow Newfoundlanders to forget, either.



Excalibur's staff meets  
Today at 1 pm. Do you  
dare attend?



One-Trick Pony

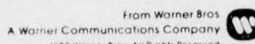
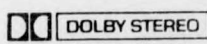
Starring PAUL SIMON and BLAIR BROWN

Costarring RIP TORN, JOAN HACKETT, ALLEN GOORWITZ, MARE WINNINGHAM, LOU REED

Produced by MICHAEL TANNEN

Directed by MICHAEL HAUSMAN Written by PAUL SIMON

Directed by ROBERT M. YOUNG Original Music by PAUL SIMON



Now Playing at the Uptown Theatre

# Isaac Bashevis Singer

## At York

October 14, 1980

5:00 p.m. I.B. Singer, his novels and stories with Professor Bar-Lewaw, Winters College Fellow, S105 Ross.

8:00 p.m. I.B. Singer, Nobel Prize Winner for Literature, Burton Auditorium.

Sponsored in conjunction with Leonard Wolinsky Lecture Series JWB, and the Jewish Student Federation.

All events are free of charge.