

Leeds International Pianoforte Competition. The competition, one of the most important of any in the world of music, has already assured him an international career. Since his win, he has given a recital and a concerto performance in London, and is now moving on to other engagements around the world.



Photo: Harrison Parrott Ltd

Jon Kimura Parker

Parker, 24, took the first prize before millions of television viewers in a performance that was broadcast live on September 22. A review in *The Times* of London referring to the ovation he received, said: 'His Brahms First Concerto was the first performance (in the competition) to elicit audience response, which broke quite spontaneously into the music's last echoes, and came from feet as well as hands.'

Fourth place in the competition went to another Canadian, Louis Lortie from Montreal, who ten days previously had won the Busoni Piano Competition in Bolzano, Italy. Of his Leeds competition performance, the *Daily Telegraph* said: 'He brought an understanding of how to think through a work in its entirety from a thoughtful viewpoint.' The newspaper also predicted that Lortie would 'have a substantial career'.

Parker and Lortie are the first Canadians to reach the finals of the Leeds competition. They were chosen from among the 101 international competitors who were selected for the first round.

Duo take first place in Munich competition

Desmond Hoebig and Andrew Tunis of Ottawa have won first prize at the Munich International Competition in the division devoted to cello and piano ensembles. The two musicians were among ten finalists in a competition that drew 52 entrants from around the world.

In the final round of the competition, the duo performed

sonatas by Franck, Tcherenpin and Beethoven and were awarded the prize unanimously. First prize of 17 000DM (about \$7 400 or £4 500) is frequently withheld when members of the jury feel that a high enough standard has not been established by the competition.

Desmond Hoebig, 22, will join the Montreal Symphony Orchestra this coming season as associate principal cellist. Andrew Tunis is already a member of the teaching staff of the music department at the University of Ottawa.

John Neville named director of Stratford

John Neville has been named artistic director of the Stratford Festival. His appointment is effective November 1, 1985, but he will become artistic director-designate on January 1.

Born in London, England, 59 year-old John Neville has been a major presence in Canadian theatre since his arrival in the country in 1972. Starting as artistic director of the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton in 1973, he then assumed the same post at Halifax's Neptune Theatre five years later. In Stratford, he hopes to extend the repertoire of the festival playbills and to make financial retrenchments. He succeeds John Hirsch in Stratford.

Ontario to choose new premier

Next month will see a leadership convention in Ontario, as provincial Conservatives meet to elect a new leader and a new premier. The convention follows the announcement in October that William Davis, premier for the last 13 years, has decided to step down.

Davis, a cabinet minister for 22 years yet still only 55, led his party to victory in four consecutive provincial elections. When he hands over the leadership to his successor, he will also be handing over a party that shows little sign of losing its appeal with Ontario voters.

The Conservatives have been in power in the province since 1943.

Stephen Lewis appointed United Nations ambassador

Stephen Lewis, who was leader of the socialist New Democratic Party in Ontario for eight years in the 1970s, has been appointed Canadian ambassador to the United Nations.

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark, who announced the appointment, also said that Douglas Roche, a Conservative with 12 years in the House of Commons, has been named ambassador for disarmament.

Clark said that the appointments 'indicate the determination of the whole government to ensure that Canada maintains a contemporary and moderate role in international affairs'.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, in answer to a question, said that selecting the former NDP leader rather than a fellow Conservative for the UN post was part of an effort to add 'a bipartisan thrust' to Canada's foreign policy.

Physicist awarded Killam Prize

Dr Werner Israel, of the University of Alberta, has received the 1984 Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Prize, worth \$50 000, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the theory of general relativity and its applications in theoretical physics and astrophysics.

Dr Israel's researches into general relativity and gravitation have been internationally acclaimed as landmarks in theoretical physics. He is best known for his proof of the uniqueness of static black holes and his contributions to the concept of the event horizon.

Dr Israel's work on relativistic shock waves and continuity equations is also well known, as are his studies of relativistic kinetic theory, in which he has investigated the thermodynamics of black holes and the theory of spinning objects.

He also has done important research into gravitational collapse, the thermodynamics of non-stationary processes, relativistic thermodynamics, and the theory of polarization.

At present he is studying non-equilibrium statistical mechanics in general relativity.

NRC scientists honoured by NASA

Four National Research Council (NRC) scientists have been cited by the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for their work in mapping the electrical currents in space.

Ronald Burrows, Don Wallis, Margaret Wilson and Terry Hughes of the NRC's Herzberg Institute for Astrophysics formally received NASA's Group Achievement Award at a recent ceremony.

The four scientists analysed data gathered by MAGSAT, a satellite launched in November, 1979, to study the Earth's crust and electric currents in the ionosphere and magnetosphere.

NASA said the MAGSAT data helped scientists to provide accurate measurements, 20 times better than anything done before, of the Earth's magnetic field.

Canadiana

Canadian pub opens in London

One of Canada's major breweries has just opened Britain's first Canadian pub in Maiden Lane.

Molson Breweries Ltd is hoping the 'Maple Leaf' will attract customers with its Molson's on draught, pine interior and Montreal smoked meat sandwiches. There are hockey sticks on the walls and copies of *The Globe and Mail* in the washroom.

The cool and fizzy Canadian beer, which is brewed in Montreal and shipped to London, is completely different from the traditional English beer, but Molson says there is still a big market for the Canadian product.

The manager of the pub, who has been serving Canadian beer for a few months, admits the English customer is reluctant to try the North American brew. 'They've been very cagey about it, but once they've tried it, they're very pleasantly surprised.'