

# News of the arts

## Paterson Ewen exhibition at Venice Biennial

Canada is being represented at the fourtieth International Biennial Exhibition of Art in Venice, Italy this summer by painter Paterson Ewen of London, Ontario.

The theme of this year's exhibition is "Art as Art/The Persistence of the Art Work".



Forked Lightning by Paterson Ewen.

Canada Council

Ewen began his career in the 1950s in Montreal where he was briefly associated with the *Automatiste* painters. By the Sixties he had gained a significant reputation as an abstract painter and his work was exhibited frequently in Montreal and Toronto.

In 1968 Ewen moved to London, Ontario where he made radical changes in his work in an attempt to redefine his approach to painting. By reintroducing figurative subject matter to his work and by experimenting with unconventional materials, he established a unique and highly personal style.

For the past decade, Ewen's work has been characterized by forceful depictions of natural phenomena, often inspired by meteorological and geological texts, which are inscribed with a router into large sheets of plywood. The authority of Ewen's work lies in his direct and often unconventional expression of subjects in nature; nature that has been the source of fear, amazement and inspiration to mankind through the ages.

## Incentives for Canadian recordings

Three Canadian radio station companies have joined with record producers and publishers to establish a new fund that could be a major incentive to the production of new Canadian records.

The fund is designed to provide up to 50 per cent of recording costs of records made by Canadian artists and producers in Canadian studios, in an effort to boost production.

An initial deposit of \$200 000 was made by radio companies CHUM Limited, Moffat Communication Limited, Rogers Radio Broadcasting Limited, along with the Canadian Music Publishers Association and the Canadian Independent Record Production Association (CIRPA) which will administer the fund. The three radio station companies collectively represent more than 20 stations across the country.

Record producers may make applications to the board of the fund, and will be given interest-free, forgivable loans. If the record makes money, after the loan has been paid off, the fund will receive 1 per cent of the suggested list price of the record made with the fund's assistance. The submissions — usually in the form of demonstration tapes — will be judged by juries made up of members of the music and broadcast industries. The first submissions are being judged this month.

CIRPA is inviting contributions to the fund from other parts of the radio and record industries, and the fund is expected to reach \$1 million by the end of the year, according to CIRPA's executive director, Earl Rosen. He said the money may also be used to create demonstration recordings and to help with tour support for performers.

For the radio station companies, the fund has a double purpose. First, it stimulates Canadian record production which will help to fill the Canadian content quotas established by the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission. Secondly, it helps radio stations to fulfil a second obligation of their licences, which is to actively support Canadian music.

## Canadian Dance Conference celebrates anniversary

The annual Dance in Canada Conference, to be held in Ottawa this month, will keep its theme as broad as possible to include a wide range of subjects for its tenth anniversary celebrations.

Major funding for this year's activities is being provided by the Department of Communications, the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council. A number of corporate supporters have also made contributions.

The Dance in Canada Conference, which takes place in a different city each year, annually provides a forum for the exchange of ideas, opinions, information and performance experience in all types of dance.

## Future challenges examined

The activities of this year's conference which will focus on the practical and future challenges of dance, includes panels, workshops, classes, presentations, performances and the Dance in Canada Association's annual general meeting. More than 80 works are scheduled for presentation in 15 separate performances. The Jean A. Chalmers Award for Choreography will also be presented.

Among the numerous dancers and groups who will participate are: Toronto Dance Theatre, Dancemakers, the Danny Grossman Dance Company, and Peggy McCann and Dancers from Toronto; Dansepartout from Quebec City; les Ballets Jazz, Margie Gillis, and Paul-André Fortier from Montreal; Terminal City Dance from Vancouver; and Theatre Ballet of Canada from Ottawa.