

Photographer captures essence of human condition

Two exhibitions of photographs by David Heath are on view at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa, until January 2.

They represent two important periods of the photographer's career. *A Dialogue With Solitude*, black and white photographs made between 1954 and 1963, was Heath's first major body of work and was assembled in 1963 as an exhibition and two years later as a book. *Songs of Innocence*, his most recent work consists of colour photographs.

Photographer and teacher

David Heath was born in Philadelphia in 1931, and in 1970 moved to Toronto where he teaches photography at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. Considered one of the most influential teachers and photographers of his generation, Heath was awarded Guggenheim Fellowships in 1963 and again in 1964. *A Dialogue With Solitude* was the product of these two grants. It is a carefully sequenced group of 82 photographs dealing with love, hate, war, bewilderment and alienation as the outward signs of loneliness.

Heath is a photographer concerned with the human condition. *A Dialogue With Solitude* stands as a testament to mankind's ability to transform through art, misery into beauty, loneliness into solitude.

The National Gallery of Canada contains the only complete exhibition set of *A Dialogue With Solitude*. Heath's work



Photograph entitled, New York 1959, is from Heath's portfolio, *A Dialogue With Solitude*.

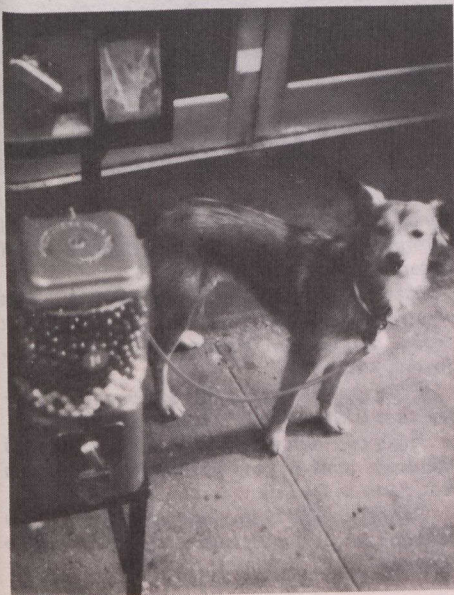
is also represented in such major collections as the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the National Film Board of Canada.

Search for innocence

Songs of Innocence, a title derived from William Blake's book of poems written in the eighteenth century, contains Heath's most recent work. For Heath, the title has a double-edged meaning, representing the artist's search for innocence through a photographic process that is normally associated with the innocent snap-shooter, the instant colour photograph, and the recording of everyday events, innocent at least in appearance.

These photographs are a tiny selection from many thousands that began as a visual diary, a record of Heath's daily life. As James Borcoman, the National Gallery's curator of photographs and organizer of the exhibition has stated, "the innocence in Heath's recent work is the product of a sophisticated eye, knowing what it is seeing, and aware of its artistic and photographic roots. The colour and scale of these little photographs remind us of the innocent charm of miniature paintings of an earlier time".

National Gallery of Canada photos



One of the photographs from David Heath's *Songs of Innocence* on display at National Gallery of Canada.

Canada-Scotland writer exchange

Canadian writer Fraser Sutherland and Scottish writer William Watson are currently taking part in exchange fellowships for 1981-82.

The two writers were participants in the annual Canada-Scotland Writers in Residence Exchange established in 1977 by the Canada Council and the Scottish Arts Council.

Mr. Watson is writer-in-residence at Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario during this academic year and Mr. Sutherland has taken up a similar position at the University of Edinburgh.

Under the exchange, the visiting writer devotes himself principally to his own work but also gives lectures, consults with students, travels, participates in seminars and literary meetings and helps to promote increased understanding of the literature of the two countries.

The fellowships are worth \$18,000 each, including accommodation and travel fares. Costs are shared by the two councils and the universities.

Movies filmed in B.C.

Six feature films — five for theatrical release and one television movie — have been filmed or are scheduled to be shot this fall in British Columbia.

The six movies are:

- *A Piano for Mrs. Cimino* is a made for television drama for EMI Television. The film, starring Bette Davis, was shot at locations in Burnaby and Vancouver;
- *Mother Lode*, starring Charlton Heston, is currently being filmed in the Vancouver, Squamish and Whistler area;
- *First Blood*, starring Sylvester Stallone and Kirk Douglas, started filming in early November and runs through January. Locations are Hope, the Fraser Valley and Parksville;
- *The Columbia Connection*, a Canadian production starring Britt Ekland, is due for filming in Vancouver;
- *Eureka*, stars Gene Hackman and is being shot in Barkerville and the Vancouver area; and
- *The Thing*, which will be shot in December in Stewart.

The British Columbia Film Promotion Office had a part in luring all six motion pictures to the province. Negotiations for two more Canadian features are expected to be made final shortly. An additional six projects are now being discussed.