

## Exhibit portrays Judeo-Christian heritage

The biblical story of Jacob's dream of a ladder climbing from earth to heaven and its expression of the human need to communicate with the divine provide the backdrop to the exhibition *Ladders to Heaven: Our Judeo-Christian Heritage 5000 B.C. — A.D. 500*. The exhibit is on view at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa until mid-October.

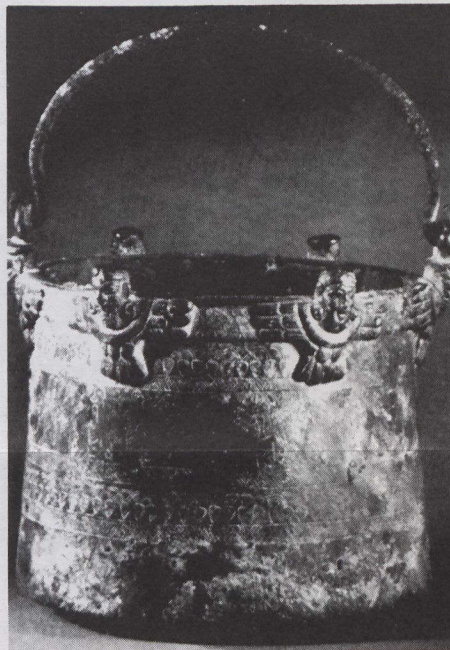
The 305 ancient Near Eastern and Mediterranean objects in the exhibition articulate man's early perception of the gods that created and controlled his environment and illustrate the rituals he developed to honour them.

Cylinder seals, stamp seals, terracottas, bronzes, ivory and shell plaques all weave a pattern of human activities and beliefs, together with sculptures, mosaics, jewellery, tablets with cuneiform inscriptions, and a sarcophagus.

### First written exchanges

This exhibition represents only a small part of a collection of 1700 pieces assembled by Dr. Elie Borowski and donated to the Lands of the Bible Archaeology Foundation.

It spans 5000 years, reaches across the boundaries of most East Mediterranean countries, and contains examples of man's first written exchanges, from the cuneiform writing of Mesopotamia to the more familiar Greek and Latin

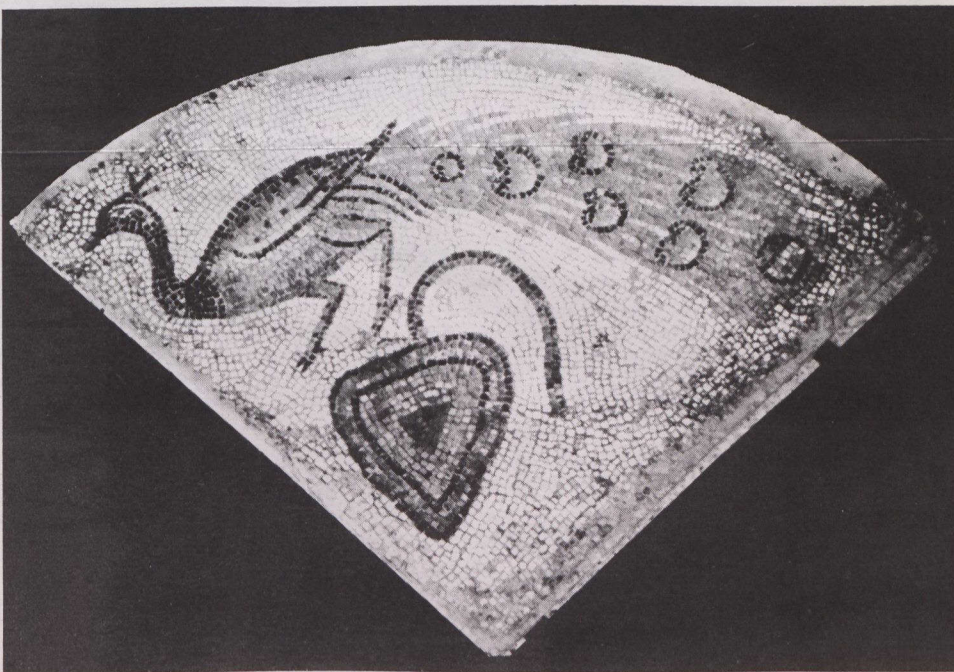


Ritual bucket with winged protomes (Northern Syria, eighth century).

alphabets.

The exhibition demonstrates the importance of the artistic tradition of the many geographic regions referred to in the Old and New Testaments.

An audio guide and video presentation enhances the travelling exhibition's portrayal of the cultural milieu that produced today's biblical traditions.



Mosaic showing a peacock and grape leaf, stone and stucco (East Mediterranean, sixth century).

## Moscow festival honours Canadian

Canadian actress Marilyn Lightstone has been awarded a diploma from a committee of Soviet women at the close of this summer's Moscow Film Festival for her portrayal as the mother Rose Anna Lacasse in the movie version of Gabrielle Roy's novel *The Tin Flute*.

The story of the struggles of a poor, working-class family in Montreal's St. Henri district during the 1940s, the Canadian movie had its world premiere at the Moscow festival July 13, the same day that author Gabrielle Roy died.

Marilyn Lightstone, born in Montreal, is a leading Canadian stage, screen and television actress and has appeared in several movies including *In Praise of Older Women* and *The Wild Pony*.

## Arts briefs

Canada's first dance video tape library will be housed at York University, Toronto. The collection now includes 60 tapes representing the works of many Canadian choreographers who submitted applications for the \$5 000 Jean A. Chalmers Choreography Award. The award has been presented yearly since 1974 to encourage artists to create works and develop their skills.

A duplicate version of the Ontario Science Circus — the travelling exhibition comprising more than 40 participatory exhibits put together by the province's Ontario Science Centre, Toronto — has been sold for \$700 000 to a Japanese publishing firm, Kyoikusha Co. It is the first overseas sale of the OSC, which caused considerable interest in Birmingham, Britain, in 1981, and later at the Science Museum in London.

The Canadian Film Institute will spearhead efforts to raise \$10 million for construction of Canada's first Omnimax theatre complex to be located in Ottawa. Government and industry officials have endorsed the project following results of a feasibility study. Omnimax, claimed as the world's most sophisticated motion picture technology, uses a "fish eye" (wide angle) lens to project film on a giant screen, similar to a titled planetarium dome. The audience is surrounded by a continuous image and loudspeakers are behind the screen to allow the sound to move across the room.