

# News of the arts

## NFB international film sales up

The National Film Board's international sales were up during the first quarter of this year with the biggest ever sale of 15 feature-length television documentaries and dramas to Malaysia.

Among the films bought by Radio Television Malaysia (RTM) is *Going the Distance*, the official film of the Commonwealth Games held in Edmonton in 1978, the NFB's first feature film *Drylanders*, and its most recent feature *One Man*, as well as Donald Brittain's award winning feature documentary *Volcano: An Inquiry into the Life and Death of Malcolm Lowry*.

Radio Television Malaysia reaches most of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei — a combined population of approximately 60 million and potential audience of about 10 million.

A total of 124 titles were sold to television in 29 countries during the January-March 1980 quarter, up from the previous quarter's total of 120 titles to 22 countries. The NFB also sold theatrical rights to 36 titles in 19 countries, adding nine more countries since the last quarter.

*Great Grand Mother*, a history of women's contribution to the settlement of the Canadian West, was the most popular title, sold for theatrical use in 15 countries and last year's Oscar winner *Special Delivery*, along with *Downhill* and *Why Me* went to the U.S. for use as theatrical shorts.

## Medals for heroines

*Canadian Women and Medals*, an exhibit at the Public Archives in Ottawa, was opened recently by Doris Anderson, president of the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women.

Planned to coincide with the July meeting in Copenhagen of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, the exhibit consists of medals by, for, and about women in Canada. It comprises 50 specimens from the National Medal Collection of the Archives, including some pieces specially loaned for this exhibition.

Among the official awards on display are insignia of Orders, other decorations, and war service medals. Medals for achievements in particular fields of endeavour include world sporting cham-



Portrait medal of Celia Franca

pionship medals and a number of Canadian awards pertaining to various cultural and learned pursuits. Portrait medals show early Canadian heroines as well as prominent professional and public figures of recent times. The women artists whose work is presented are leaders in Canadian medallic art today. *Canadian Women and Medals* will be on display at the Archives until September 15.

## Canadian artists in graphics exhibit

Five graphic artists from Canada have had their work chosen for the *World Print III* exhibition, which recently began a two-year North American tour.

Four of the Canadian artists — René Derouin, Doreen Lindsay, Ann McCall and Paul Beliveau — are from Quebec, and the fifth, Gill Armitage, is from British Columbia.

Financed by Philip Morris Inc., *World Print III* is the largest graphic arts competition open, without restriction, to artists throughout the world. It was organized by the World Print Council in the United States, in association with the California College of Arts and Crafts and Osaka University of Arts.

More than 4,000 prints encompassing a variety of printmaking techniques were received for the competition. During a week-long judging process, an international jury selected 130 works by artists representing 19 countries.

The show opened at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art on June 28. It will tour the United States and Canada for the next two years, under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution. In Canada, it will be shown in Halifax in 1981 and Edmonton in 1982.

## Celia Franca in China

Celia Franca, founder of the National Ballet of Canada, recently returned to Canada following a three-month teaching tour in China.

Miss Franca spent the first three weeks with the Shanghai Ballet and the remainder of her time with the Peking Ballet School in Beijing. The culmination of her visit was the performance of the full-length ballet *Coppelia* by ballet students from the Peking Ballet School. It was the first time that the entire ballet was presented in China by Chinese dancers.

James Morton, Miss Franca's husband and chief clarinetist of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, instructed in clarinet at the Central Conservatory of Music in Peking. Before their departure, Miss Franca and Mr. Morton met with Chinese Minister of Culture Huang Zhen. A farewell reception for the two was given by Vice-minister of Culture Lin Mohan.

## Distribution set for film

Twentieth Century-Fox has acquired the American distribution rights for the Canadian suspense thriller *Terror Train*, and will open the film in 800 theatres across the United States on October 31.

"This is the largest U.S. release ever accorded a Canadian movie, and Twentieth Century-Fox will spend \$4 million to launch the film," said Harold Greenberg, president of Astral Bellevue Pathé and the film's producer.

On the same date, Astral Films will open *Terror Train* in 75 theatres across Canada.

Filed entirely in and around Montreal, the film stars Ben Johnson, Jamie Lee Curtis, Hart Bochner, David Copperfield, Derek MacKinnon and Sandie Currie.

The film is the third of Astral Bellevue Pathé's 1979 productions to receive major distribution. *Death Ship* is currently being seen on screens in the U.S. and Canada, and will be widely distributed around the world. Avco Embassy has acquired world-wide distribution rights, except Canada, for *Tulips*, scheduled for fall release. Astral is distributing *Death Ship* and *Tulips*, as well as *Terror Train*, in Canada.