Art and Technology Converge in Sao Paulo and Venice

nternational audiences will be treated to two outstanding and unique exhibitions of Canadian art at the Sao Paulo Biennale this fall, and the Venice Biennale next summer.

For the first time, the Canadian commissioners for the Biennales have been selected on a competitive basis. Based on Sao Paulo's general theme, Utopia Versus

Reality, Canada's Northern Noise exhibit is organized by Bruce Ferguson, the curator, and the Winnipeg Art Gallery. It will reflect the nature of technology and its impact on Canadians.

John Tupper of the Winnipeg Art Gallery says the display will feature a number of dynamic works that should be of great interest to a sophisticated world audience. He says the mix of visual art, film, projection, and electronic sculpture represents the "appropriate Canadian response to resolution of the conflict Canadians have between American and European approaches to technology." Kim Adams of Toronto, Ontario; Roland Brener of Victoria, British Columbia (participating in

both Sao Paulo and Venice); Eleanor Bond of Winnipeg, Manitoba; Geneviève Cadieux of Montreal, Quebec; Wyn Gelaynse of London, Ontario; and Barbara Steinman of Montreal have been chosen to represent Canada in Sao Paulo from October to December 1987.

France Gascon, curator at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, is Canadian commissioner for the 1988 Venice Biennale, which runs from June to September. She has chosen Michel Goulet of Montreal and Roland Brener to represent Canada because of the interest their work has already raised in artistic circles. Both artists have made their mark by working with "objets trouvés." Brener constructs motorized

machines that are activated by the audience (triggered by an electronic eye), while Goulet rearranges common elements like bedframes and chairs to present new and unexpected messages.

The Biennales are an outstanding opportunity for Canadian artists to gain serious international exposure. The events will make Canadian art accessible to museum directors and curators, art critics, collectors, dealers and other opinion leaders in the art world, as well as the general public.

Drawings by Canadian artist Eleanor Bond displayed at Sao Paulo exhibit this fall.

