

## SHOOT ALBERTA

by Linda Kupecek

*Loyalties*, a feature to be directed by Anne Wheeler, will shoot in northern Alberta July 2. Produced by Bill Johnston and Ron Lillie (*Isaac Littlefeathers*) with Wheeler as co-producer, *Loyalties* is the story of the unlikely friendship between a newly arrived woman from England and a tough Métis barmaid. Writer Sharon Riis (*Latitude 55*) was a finalist in the ACTRA Awards for *Change of Heart*, which also won Wheeler (*War Story*) best director award at the 1985 Alberta Film and Television Awards.

Wheeler recently helmed two half-hour dramas for Atlantis Films: *One's a Heifer*, shot in the badlands of Drumheller, and *A Bird in the House*, in Edmonton. She is also slated to direct one of the segments of the upcoming mini-series on Métis, to be produced by Norma Bailey in '85 and '86.

*Storm*, a low-budget feature written, produced and directed by David Winning of Calgary, screened at the Market section of the Cannes Film Festival on May 12. The story of two students who encounter danger in a storm in the woods, was developed over two years... with a final budget of under \$100,000.

Winning's first film, *Sequence*, a short subject, has recently been acquired by Cannon International (The Cannon Group) for theatrical use in the United Kingdom.

*Storm* is blessed with a dynamic original music score by Amin Bhatia whose compositions for synthesizer have won a string of international awards. Associate producer was Michael Kevis; editor was Bill Campbell of Campbell Post Production in Calgary; cameraman was Tim Hollings; and location sound was handled by Per Asplund. Winning, 23, and his colleagues were unable to secure funding to attend the Cannes screening, but hope to promote the film in L.A. this summer.

Marcella Bienvenue, the multi-talented coordinator of the Calgary Society for Independent Filmmakers, recently wrote and directed a new project, a collaboration of the C.S.I.F. and the students of Cinema Television Stage and Radio Arts at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. *The Heart Is a Lonely Monitor* deals with media manipulation, and involved the SAIT students working with members of the C.S.I.F. in a learning situation. The SAIT liaison for the 12 minute 16mm film was

instructor Diane Edmondson. Bienvenue, praised by Calgary critics for both her beauty and her work, is also a performance video artist.

HBW/Toth Co-productions of Calgary recently completed taping nine half-hour programs as a pilot for a mini-series,

*Connecting*, a Donohue-like talk show for teenagers. Budget was \$172,000 with participation from Telefilm, AMPDC, the Alberta Secretariat for International Youth Year, private investors and the producers. The series, taped at CBC facilities in Calgary, will be aired in Alberta in September '85.

Tom Keenan, computer whiz, university professor and writer/broadcaster (*CBC Stereo Morning*) has won the Canadian Science Writers Association

Award in Electronic Media for *Crimes of the Future*, produced by Dave Refel for the *Ideas* series on CBC radio... Cinematographer Roger Vernon handled camera for the Canadian Disabled Championships at Sunshine for CTV's *Wide World of Sports*, and is gearing up for work on an anamorphic film for the Alberta pavilion at Expo 86 in Vancouver... Bette Chadwick of the Other Agency Casting Ltd. has been casting *The Little Vampire* (shooting at

CITY in Edmonton) and working on a national talent search for the children in *Loyalties*... Peripatetic John Scott wrangled *Kane and Abel* in Toronto, and is stunt coordinator for *Guts and Glory* in Vancouver, as well as working as production manager on the recent Prestone anti-freeze commercial... Bill Marsden of the Film Industry Development Office is headed for Chicago for the annual meeting of Film Commissioners.



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## NEWS

### NFB FILMS AT BANFF

Two NFB feature documentaries are in competition at the 6th Banff Television Festival. *Pitchmen*, Barry Greenwald's film that dices, slices, and juliennes, while looking at Canada's masters of the fine art of selling everything and anything from wonder wallets to canape-makers. *Pitchmen*, telecast on CBC in January, was produced by the NFB's Ontario Region, written by Steve Lucas and produced by John Kramer. *The Land that Devours Ships*, co-produced by the NFB and Undersea Research, chronicles the discovery of the Breadalbane, a wooden barque which sank in the 1950's in Canada's Northwest Passage. Veteran NFB filmmaker Bill Mason directed, edited, and photographed the film and shares the narration credit with Canadian broadcaster Patrick Watson. *The Land that Devours Ships*, was telecast on CBC in November, 1984.

### TRIPLE HONORS FOR McLAREN

Three tributes to the life-long work of NFB animator and experimental filmmaker Norman McLaren are scheduled in New York, Los Angeles and here in Canada. In New York a special showing of McLaren's work was screened at the Museum of Modern Art Department of Film on May 28 and the complete collection of McLaren's work was presented by NFB to MoMA in honor of the Department of Film's 50th anniversary. In speaking of the donation, Richard E. Oldenburg, Director of The Museum of Modern

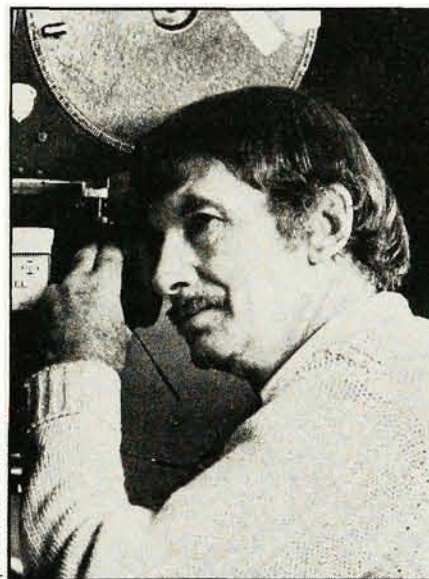


Photo: Ron Diamond  
Norman McLaren

Art, notes "... it is particularly gratifying to receive the complete McLaren collection, representing an artist who has brought together film, painting, drawing, and design to create a masterful and influential body of work. This gift enriches not only our film archive but indeed the American film community as a whole, which will now have permanent access through the Museum to these incomparable animated films."

In Los Angeles, on June 17, McLaren will be the subject of a special salute from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. This prestigious celebration of his work will include a 90-minute screening of McLaren's films at the Academy's 800-seat theatre followed by a discussion led by animation artists Chuck Jones; John Whitney, Sr.; film critic and historian, Charles

Solomon; and McLaren's colleague Don McWilliams. The NFB will also present an archival collection of McLaren's complete work to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, thus making the Academy the west coast centre for McLaren studies.

Here in Canada, the Canadian Film Institute will launch a cross-country tour of the best of Canada's animation. Scheduled in four parts, "Canimation" will devote an entire program to the work of McLaren. Featuring 17 of his films, this retrospective provides a unique opportunity for Canadians to see the variety and range of McLaren's techniques. "Canimation" will open in Edmonton, June 5; in Calgary, June 7; Winnipeg, June 9; Montreal, June 18; Halifax, June 23; Ottawa, July 2; Toronto, July 12; Vancouver, July 15. Check local listings for further program details.

### WERNER NOLD APPOINTED TO ORDER OF CANADA

Veteran NFB editor, Werner Nold was appointed to the Order of Canada, the country's highest distinction, by Governor General, Her Excellency the Right Honourable Jeanne Sauv e this April in Ottawa. Nold joined the NFB in 1961 and since then has edited more than 80 films including *Pour la suite du monde*, *Ixe-13*, and *Les Jeux de la XXI<sup>e</sup> Olympiade*. His most recent production is *Cinema, cinema*, a film celebrating 25 years of French production at the NFB, which he co-directed with Gilles Carle.

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