

Arcand gets \$100,000 from provincial SGCQ

MONTREAL – Denys Arcand, director of the highly successful *Déclin de l'empire américain*, is the winner of this year's \$100,000 prize presented by the Société générale du cinéma du Québec.

The prize, which must be re-invested into the winning filmmaker's next film within 24 months, is awarded by a jury for overall quality of excellence. Sixteen Quebec-made feature films were in the running this year.

An additional \$100,000 for excellence, also to be re-invested, was divided evenly between two films: *Pouvoir intime* by Yves Simoneau and *La Couleur encerclée* by Serge and Jean Gagné.

Two \$50,000 prizes – *primes au succès* – went to producers Rock Demers for *La Guerre des tuques* and to Denis Dupont for his documentary series entitled *Images perdues*.

Both films were recognized for cost efficiency – the best ratio between the cost of production and revenues.

Presiding over the awards ceremony at the Montreal City Hall, April 28, was cinematographer Michel Brault.

Prizes for excellence were awarded last year to *La Guerre des tuques*, directed by André Melançon and *Jacques et novembre* by François Bouvier and Jean Beaudry.

Video by Nicholls to fight cancer

MONTREAL – *L'Esprit d'équipe/Closer Together*, a 25-minute film in aid of young cancer victims, starring the Montreal Canadiens, directed by Allan Nicholls and shot by the award-winning director of photography Pierre Mignot, is now available on video cassette.

This story about a young boy undergoing cancer treatment, who seeks solace in his dreams of becoming a rock star and a member of the Montreal Cana-

diens, was written and produced by Liz Morency of Les Productions Liz Morency.

Proceeds from the sales of video cassettes will go to LEUCAN, a Montreal-based non-profit organization, which provides financial assistance and moral support to young cancer patients and their families.

Vision 4 co-prod

MONTREAL – Sir John Gielgud, age 78, will star in *Daddy Nostalgie*, a feature-length drama to be directed by Francis Mankiewicz. This father-daughter drama will co-star French actress Miou-Miou.

It will be produced by the Montreal-based Film Vision 4 and AB Films (France). Shooting is scheduled for autumn in France.

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