

Losique establishes Ottawa base with Cinematheque

MONTREAL - After months of rumour, the Conservatory of Cinematographic Art (CCA) in Montreal and the Canadian Film Institute (CFI) in Ottawa have merged to form the Cinematheque Canada.

Serge Losique, chairman and chief executive officer of the new organization, has announced that the CCA, which he founded in 1968 and the CFI, founded in 1935, will retain their names and many of their established programs.

Frank Taylor, who submitted his resignation as executive director of the CFI prior to the merger, will continue as vice-president of the Cinematheque Canada. Danièle Cauchard, from the CCA, is also a vice-president.

In an effort to retire a \$175,000 debt, the 53-year-old CFI had considered several offers to merge with film-related organizations. It was rumoured that among these organizations were the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television and Canadian Centre for Advanced Film Studies.

In February, Taylor denied that the CFI was considering a \$200,000 bid by the CCA. However, the proposed merger was accepted by the CFI in April and the merger was approved by the CCA board in mid-June.

The board of directors of Cinematheque Canada will have 13 members, including five members from the CFI. Gordon Bruce, president of the CFI prior to the merger, is on the board.

Bruce told *Cinema Canada* that the CFI decision to merge with the CCA was "virtually unanimous."

"We had looked for an organization compatible with ours and one with which we could rationalize our activities," says Bruce.

He says the CFI had improved its financial deficit position but the absence of core funding presented an unending struggle. The CCA was willing to take responsibility for the \$200,000 debt.

"In better circumstances we would have carried on by ourselves," says Bruce, who adds that all of the essential CFI programs will be continued even though some programs with less of a public profile may be dropped.

"In every kind of merger, one cannot insist that all activities continue," he says.

Cinematheque Canada will have branches in Montreal and Ottawa.

The CFI was the first cinematheque founded in Canada and holds over 6,500 titles in its educational film library in Markham, Ontario. It also organizes festivals and publishes books and

resource materials on Canadian film and television.

The CCA operates its own film archives and organizes festivals and retrospectives. Public screenings are programmed year-round.

At presstime neither Serge Losique nor Frank Taylor were available for comment.

Yugoslavia highlighted at World Film Fest

MONTREAL - Twelve new feature films and two shorts from Yugoslavia will be among the highlights of the 12th Montreal World Film Festival, Aug. 24-Sept. 4.

Two films from Yugoslavia, *A Film Without Name* by Srdan Karanovic and *The Life With The Uncle* by Krsto Papic, will be screened in the Official Competition as part of the festival's tribute to Yugoslavian Cinema of Today.

Czechoslovakia, China, Hungary, Argentina, Japan and Latin America will also have a strong cinematic presence at the festival.

Montreal market gearing up for August

MONTREAL - July 22 is the cut-off date for office reservations at the Montreal International Film, TV and Video Market. Aug. 29 to Sept. 3.

The market which last year attracted over 800 buyers and sellers from over 60 countries, will be held at the Meridien Hotel in downtown Montreal during the Montreal World Film Festival, Aug. 24-Sept. 4.

Market coordinator Madeline Bélisle has announced that, as in past years, a special emphasis will be placed on Canadian productions with foreign representation from the U.S., Europe, South America and Asia.

Turkey seizes film in illegal move

MONTREAL - Canadian filmmakers who feel hard-put-upon will value their good fortune to be working in this country when considering the plight of Swedish-Turkish director Muammer Ozer, whose latest film *Kara Sevдали Bulut* (*Cloud of Love*) was confiscated on March 26 by Turkish police prior to being viewed by the government censor board.

The film is a strong polemic against institutionalized terror and torture that tells the story of a woman who has been tortured and of her efforts to create a new identity for herself after being released. It is Ozer's third feature

film after *Splittring* (1983, Sweden) and *A Handful of Paradise* (1985, Turkey).

In a letter addressed to *Cinema Canada*, Devkino, the Swedish production company and co-producer of *Cloud of Love* with Kinomozaik, Turkey, has asked that information in this matter be circulated in an effort to force the Turkish government to return the seized film.

The letter says that Ozer, who began the shoot in Istanbul in late 1987, completed in March this year, was accused by the Turkish police of making a political film "full of scenes that insult the Turkish state authorities" with the intention of smuggling it out of Turkey.

A trial date was set for May 25.

Devkino is concerned that the police will destroy the negative and prints regardless of the court's decision and blame it on poor storage conditions.

"Even if the court decides to free the film, there is good reason to fear that the police will try to get the film and destroy it," says Devkino.

The precedent for such action, they say, is the burning of the negative and print of a television series by Halit Refik entitled *The Tired Warrior*, about the Turkish liberation war.

According to Devkino, the police have no right to seize a film before it has been seen by the censors. Nor can a film be the subject of prosecution.

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Peter Colley has had over 200 stage productions in Canada, Europe, The United States and Australia. He is the author of Canada's most popular stage thriller: "I'LL BE BACK BEFORE MIDNIGHT!" (currently on a National Tour of Great Britain and at the Charlottetown Festival), "THE MARK OF CAIN" (film version by BrightStar Films/Vestron Video), "YOU'LL GET USED TO IT" (presently on a tour of Ontario, and a T.V. Special by CKCO TV), "THE DONNELLYS" and "THE VAUDEVILLIANS." He has been published by Samuel French Inc. (New York & London), Bakers Plays of Boston, Simon & Pierre and MacMillans. He is currently writing "PACIFIC BOUND," a feature film for High Tide Productions of British Columbia.

Mr. Colley has a B.A. (Hons) from Sheffield University and has studied at the University of Western Ontario, U.S.C. Film School, U.C.L.A., and the American Film Institute in Hollywood. He has taught this course for Theatre Ontario and the Second City Comedy Troupe.

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