

ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL

The Ontario Arts Council offers grants to professional artists who are residents of Ontario, working in the following disciplines:

SCREENWRITING

to assist with the development of feature-length dramatic screenplays.

Deadline: February 1

FILM

towards the production costs of documentary, dramatic, animated or experimental films.

Deadlines: April 1, November 1

VIDEO

to assist with the production of original video art.

Deadlines: February 1, August 15

Please note: all applications must be supported by examples of recent work.

For further information and application forms, contact:

Film, Photography and Video Office
ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
151 Bloor Street West, Suite 500
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1T6 (416) 961-1660



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Prairie Pulse

GREG KLYMKIW



The Monster in the bin

Jack Horowitz is ecstatic. Horowitz is an Executive Producer in the Film and Video Program of the Department of Supply and Services (DSS). His department, under the recently-formed Non-theatrical Film Fund, has kicked-in matching funds for a new half-hour drama which is currently shooting in Winnipeg. The pic, entitled *The Monster in the Cool Bin*, is the first film produced in Manitoba under the new fund. As well, it is the Fund's first flick done in conjunction with a non-profit organization (Executive Producers are the Winnipeg Film Group collective) and the first drama to be produced in Western Canada with DSS sponsorship. Horowitz was bowled-over by the project. "It's a highly unique and innovative film," said Horowitz, "and reflects the abundant talent on the Prairies." Pic is a family drama produced by Tracy Traeger and directed by Allen Schinkel. Schinkel's previous work includes the 13-minute festival-fave *The Caretaker*. Total budget of *Monster* is 91,000 beans and toplines eight-year-old Adam Smoluk and popular actress C. Roscoe Handford. Other sources of funding include the Manitoba Arts Council (MAC), Winnipeg Film Group (WFG) and Canada-Manitoba Cultural Industries Development Office (CIDO). Pic is slated for release to non-theatrical markets. After helming-chores are done on this project, Schinkel returns to development of his feature film, *The Road*.

The Mob hits town

Cement Shooz Productions, two-million-dollar feature *Mob Story* began a six-week shoot in Winnipeg on February 6. Writer-producer-directors Gabriel and Jancarlo Markiw have scored a top-flight cast for their action/comedy. Al Waxman, John Vernon, Kate Vernon (John's daughter) and Margot Kidder.

Word has it this will be Kidder's last acting role for awhile. Apparently, Kidder wants to be a big-time movie director. Good luck, Margot. Other cast members are comprised of numerous Peg-thesps. Solid support is imminent from two Peggerys in particular. Neil Lawrie (previously seen as the psychotic Dr. Jolly in John Paizs, *Crimewave*) and Michael Gottli (last seen as Gunnar the Rotund in Guy Maddin's cult-hit *Tales From the Gimli Hospital*). Director of Photography is Gilles Corbeil. Executive Producers are Tony Kramreither and Don Haig. Funding players include Canada-Manitoba Cultural Industries Development Office (CIDO) and Telefilm Canada.

The Last Winter

Aaron Kim Johnson's three-million-dollar feature, *The Last Winter*, begins shooting on March 13. The pseudo-autobiographical family drama will be set and shot in the Virden-Oak Lake area of Manitoba. Pic is produced by Johnson, Jack Clements and Ken Rodeck. Johnson, in addition to helming, wrote the original script. D.O.P. is Ian Elkin, with scissor-job to be performed by Lara Mazur. Distribution has been secured with Modern Cinema Marketing of Vancouver. Funding players include National Film Board (NFB), Canada-Manitoba Cultural Industries Development Office (CIDO) and Telefilm Canada.

Revolution in Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan Film Development Project (SFDP) just wrapped a seven-day February shoot on the Ken Mitchell-penned half-hour, *The Great Electrical Revolution*. Larry Bauman helmed the tele-pic which boasted an 85 per cent Sask-based crew. SFDP project co-ordinator and co-producer Barbara Stewart reported that the event was a great success. Stewart pointed to such non-Sask stalwarts as editor Frank Irvine (*The Grey Fox*), art director John Blackie (*Bye Bye Blues*) and director of photography Andreas Polson (*Henry Ford's America*) as being excellent resource people for the Sask-based crew. "Building on existing skills is the key to our professional development in Saskatchewan," said Stewart. Key tech personnel on pic were also SFDP workshop leaders. Stewart claimed that the flick's set was the "largest ever built in Saskatchewan." In total, 23 trainees are benefitting from on-the-job professional development. Delivery date for final product is June 1 of this year. Flick's other co-producer is Kevin Dewalt.

Sask, shorts / feature tour west

The Saskatchewan FilmPool kicked-off its Western Canadian tour in Winnipeg. Other locales included Alta's Pincher Creek, Whitehorse, Victoria, Edmonton, Brandon, Calgary, Regina, Vancouver, Kelowna and Saskatoon. Included in the tour are a bunch of indie-Sask shorts and the Gerald Saul/Brian Stockton-helmed feature *Wheat Soup*.