

Women's fest. honors Poirier

MONTREAL - The fifth Festival international de films et vidéos de femmes de Montréal will be held June 7 to 15. The festival features a diversity of films by women filmmakers from around the world. A retrospective of films by Anne-Claire Poirier of Quebec will be held.

African fest. will show the best

MONTREAL - Les 5èmes Journées de Cinéma Africain will be held in Montreal, April 24 to 30 at the Cinémathèque québécoise and the NFB (Guy Favreau Complex). Features sections of the festival, presented by Vues d'Afrique are: "Afrique: Images de femmes", "Panorama du cinéma africain", "La soirée créole".

Chinese fest. : sixty films

MONTREAL - The Montreal International Chinese Festival will be held in Montreal, May 26 to June 2. Sixty films will be screened in three venues - la cinémathèque québécoise, the National Film Board and the Goethe-Institut.

Yorkton fest. : streamlined categories

YORKTON - The 25th edition of the Yorkton Short Film and Video Festival will be held May 31 to June 4. The award categories have been streamlined this year. Special events this year include an opening night reception, a slowpitch ball game and barbecue, a multicultural street dance and a Golden Sheaf Awards presentation.

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MARK O'NEILL



Flora MacDonald seems to have started a trend. Her successor, Marcel Masse, was in Vancouver in February for a series of meetings with cultural movers and shakers. Perhaps inspired by her appearance in *The Campbells*, the recycled minister spent a chilly hour or two as an extra on the set of *Terminal City Ricochet*.

The Honorable Minister entered the costume trailer in elegant pinstripes. Moments later he was transformed into a grubby rubby complete with brown-bagged bottle (contents unknown). It was a damp, windy afternoon but Mr. Masse patiently sat through seven takes. Mind you, he didn't have to do much, just stare vacantly into space as a ragamuffin-on-skateboard skidded in and out of the shot. Maybe the multiple takes were a form of revenge; British Columbia waited a long time for federal film dollars, it seemed only fair to make the Minister cool his heels for a short time.

Terminal City Ricochet is a \$2.8 million B.C. production directed by Zale Dalen and produced by John Conti.

BORDER SKIRMISHES

Bordertown, the TV series being shot in Maple Ridge, is a hit on the U.S. Christian Broadcasting Network cable channel. It leads its time slot among U.S. cable networks and is the most popular original show on CBN Family Channel.

Unfortunately the producers have been unable to sign-up a Canadian broadcaster despite the fact the series takes place along the 49th parallel. Viewers in France will be able to follow the adventures of the American marshal and his Mountie counterpart as early as this fall.

ANIMATORS SELL SHORTS

Lupo the Butcher, a cartoon from Vancouver's animation house International Rocketship and directed by Danny Antonucci, will soon be seen on Italian TV. As well, Rocketship has sold two Marv Newland productions, *Sing Beast Sing* and *Bambi Meets Godzilla* to First Choice Pay-TV.

And, South Vancouver composer John McCulloch is anxiously awaiting both Genie and Oscar award nights. *The Cat Came Back*, animated by Winnipeggers Cordell Barker and Richard Condie (*The Big Snit*) has already won prizes at the World Festival of Animated films in Yugoslavia and at this year's Los Angeles Animation Celebration. It's nominated for the Best Animated Short Academy Award.

GREY POWER CAN'T SAVE THE BEST YEARS

It may be the worst of times for *The Best Years*, CBC Television's program for people who weren't born yesterday. The weekly magazine show for senior citizens, which has been produced out of Vancouver for the past four-and-a-half years, has been shelved.

The show was suffering from low ratings and, since NHL playoffs were about the play havoc with the schedule anyway, CBC decided to shut things down at the end of March.

Producer René Généreux doesn't think the decision was entirely fair. He points out that CBC moved the show to Wednesday nights, meaning many male viewers tuned into hockey instead. He says when *The Best Years* was seen in B.C. on Fridays, it attracted up to 100,000 viewers; Wednesdays resulted in less than half of that.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The B.C. Festival of Arts is looking for films or videos made by elementary, secondary or post-secondary students. Best entries will be screened at the Festival in Chilliwack May 24-28. Phone (604) 669-1333 for information.

University of British Columbia film students will be showing their stuff at the Robson Square Media Centre on April 29. 'Persistence of Vision' is the name of the show which begins at 7 p.m. Companies wanting to support filmmaking at UBC are invited to become POV Patrons; a \$150 minimum donation (money, goods or services) will be awarded to a deserving student. Further info available by writing to 'Persistence of Vision', 207 Frederic Wood Building, 6354 Crescent Road, UBC, Vancouver, V6T 1W5.

VIFF POSTER COMPETITION

Calling all artists! The Vancouver International Film Festival is inviting designs for the 1989 Festival posters t-shirts and advertising. Winner will receive a \$1200 contract for camera-ready artwork.