Trade News

Carle gets nod from Masse

MONTREAL – Filmmaker Gilles Carle says what transpired during a private dinner in Paris with Marcel Masse will remain confidential. He did say, however, that the federal minister of Communications says something must be done about getting fair remuneration for French-language writers.

Carle is allied with the Paris-based Société des auteurs et compositeurs dramatiques (SADC) in a fight for rights to remuneration for French-language writers in Canada. He has been insisting that French-language screenwriters in Canada be given a percentage of revenues every time their film is aired – the European principle.

The federal government and the government of Quebec are expected to announce in May 1990 the measures they will take to support the so-called European principle, which also gives the writer the moral authority to block the use of his film.

"Masse says something must be done. But I don't expect the federal government to move until next May," says Carle.

It is the American principle that is most commonly used in Canada whereby the writer is paid a lump sum of money and the producer claims all rights to the property.

However, Carle says many prominent American writers are beginning to see the advantage of the European principle.

"Is becoming clear in the U.S.," says Carle, "that if you don't have a super agent, you are nobody. This makes it very difficult for a young filmmaker with no representation."

Carle, well-known for Les Plouffe and numerous NFB films says most of his present-day earnings are from repeated European broadcasts of his films.

First year for Sudbury festival

SUDBURY – Cinefest '89, Sudbury's first international film festival, will be held in this Northern Ontario city September 22 to 24th. It is a pilot project of Toronto's Festival of Festivals and the Sudbury Arts Council, with the assistance of the Ontario Film Development Corporation. Cam Haynes, who has been organizing the event, says although it's the first time in the north that a film festival has been attempted on this level, it has been embraced by the community and local sponsorship has been good.

The OFDC provided the Sudbury Arts Council with \$25,000 after the festival investigated a number of northern cities as a possible site for a satellite festival. The program is small, 24 films,

12 of which will be Canadian. Allan King's first feature in eight years, *Termini Station*, filmed on location in Northern Ontario, is confirmed, and Bruce McDonald's off-beat *Roadkill*, shot in and around Sudbury, will be ready in time. There will be another tribute to the National Film Board and a presentation of the NFB-produced *Justice Denied : The Donald Marshall Story*.

The Festival of Festivals staff is setting up seminars in cinematography, directing and producing, funded by the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and Telefilm Canada. Haynes hopes to draw audiences from across Northern Ontario, "from Pembroke to Sault Ste-Marie and from Timmins south to Parry Sound."

Second year for all-Canadian fest in Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS – In what is believed to be the first ongoing festival of Canadian films in an American city, the Indiana Film Society is preparing for their second Festival of New Canadian Cinema in Indianapolis, August 24-27th. Tom Alvarez, chairperson of the festival, told Cinema Canada that despite only modest success last year, they were encouraged by the local and Canadian support they received. "We were onto something we felt was a new wave," said Alvarez. "The very notion of having an annual festival showcasing nothing but Canadian films was a concept with a unique marketing hook."

The seed for the festival was planted during the opening of the Canada Exhibit at the Indiana State Museum, prior to the Pan American games in the summer of 1987. With the support of the Canadian Consulate in Detroit, and in consultation with the Academy of Canadian Cinema in Toronto, Alvarez was able to mount the first festival over three days.

This year there will be 20 features (English and French), documentaries, animated shorts and children's programs. Yates and Salzman's Milk and Honey and Wheeler's Cowboys Don't Cry open the festival and other entrants include Les portes tournantes and Family Viewing. There will be workshops and panel discussions. Guests include actress Jackie Burroughs, writer John Frizzel, Toronto Star entertainment editor Sid Adilman and Geoff Pevere from the Festival of Festivals.

During the past two years, Alvarez has become something of an expert on Canadian films and hopes to position the festival as an international event. He sees it as an opportunity to create a "cultural understanding" between the countries and promote "something positive."

GREG KLYMKIW



PAVAROTTI WARBLES FOR TOBAN

Productions de la Seine Inc. recently wrapped shooting on their one-hour decumentary bio-pic, Carlos Ott: Architect. The Toban-produced flick examines Canadian architect Carlos Ott and his race to complete the Paris Opera House in time for the grand opening, which coincided with the eve of the anniversary of the French Revolution. Pic shot in such exotic locales as Paris and the Grand Prix in Monaco. As well, pic managed to capture Luciano Pavarotti testing out the acoustics of the virgin Parisian venue. Producer is Claude Forest.

BLOOD FLOWS IN SPERLING

John Kozak has wrapped principal photography on his half-hour drama, Dory. Shot on location in an abandoned farmhouse in Sperling, Manitoba (a small town just outside of Winnipeg), the pic is a not-for-the-squeamish, Hitchcockian-style psychological thriller. Kozak's previous efforts include Running Time (a half-hour experimental suspense drama) and The Celestial Matter (a feature-length drama set in the Middle Ages). Kozak's new flick revolves around two isolated sisters and their perverted relationship. The filmmaker describes pic as blending Hitchcockian elements with American Realism and Greek Tragedy. This is the second Manitoba-produced drama to receive funding from the Department of Supply and Services Non-Theatrical Film Fund. Other dough was secured from the Canada Council and CIDO.

GIMLI PREEMS IN BIG APPLE

Cinephile's André Bennett was in New York City for the July theatrical opening of Guy Maddin's Tales From The Gimli Hospital, which made its Big Apple debut at the Greenwich Village art house, The Quad. Bennett reported that opening weekend figures were solid, and all appears well on the cult-classic horizon. The night before the pic opened, American co-distrib. Ben Barenholtz, threw a Gimli party at the Mar Club (Dress was "hospital chic"). Bennett reports that the party was populated by the "ultra-chic and ultra-freak of New York."

WFG GRINDS OUT MORE PRODUCT

The Winnipeg Film Group, the lucky prairie film cooperative that keeps churning it out, recently premiered several new films. New flicks included a first film by Laurence Mardon entitled, The Sad Fate Of The Girl Justine At The Hands Of The Marquis De Sade (the title says it all), John Kozak and Donna Lewis'Root Canal (a live-action prairies version of Bambi Meets Godzilla), and Allen Schinkel's half-hour family drama, The Monster In The Coal Bin. Latter pic was the first Manitoba-produced drama to receive funding under DSS's Non-theatrical Film Fund. Other new WFG works included three workshop films. First up was Swanson's Nightmare (helmed by a WFG filmmaking workshop, under the guidance of John Kozak). Then two new documentaries, Death: The Impossible Escape and When Worlds Collide, were exhibited. Latter pics were jointly helmed by the WFG Documentary Filmmaking Workshop under the guidance of Janis Cole. 'Peg scribes were fairly positive in their reviews of the abovementioned. Abovementioned pics received cashola from DSS, CIDO, Canada Council, and the Manitoba Arts Council.

FOREST RANGERS' CHUBB WRAPS IN MANITOBA

Producer **Ralph Endersby** (whom most of you will remember as "Chubb" in the immortal CBC-TV series, *The Forest Rangers*) and veteran helmer **Eric Till**, wrapped on *The Challenge*. The 90-minute telepic was shooting on location in Stonewall, Manitoba, which is just outside of The 'Peg. The kiddie flick will air sometime this fall on The People's Network.

NFB DESERVES AN APOLOGY

In the past, I have occasionally and mistakenly (I'm told) referred to the National Film Board as a "funder." The NFB (I'm told) is not a "funder." The NFB considers themselves (I'm told) "producers." My apologies. Let it be said here, loudly and clearly, "The National Film Board of Canada is a producer, not a funder."

MADDIN WRAPS ARCHANGEL

Guy Maddin wrapped on-schedule and on-budget with his feature-length comedy-drama, Archangel. He is currently in post- production. Delivery is expected