

## CALL'EM

by Linda Shapiro

## People, People, People

internationally acclaimed guitarist *Liona Boyd* has been drawing SRO audiences for her performances in Copenhagen, Belgium, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Crime does pay—especially if you're radio writer-producer *George Jonas*, and criminal lawyer *Edward Greenspan* and the CBC. A 13-week drama series based on Canadian crime stories will be aired on CBC's Sunday Matinee series this fall.

*Arnold Robinson* who sang with the inimitable "My Prayer" Platters from 1968 to 1973 has joined the Nylons. He is scheduled to make his capella debut with the group in June at Ontario Place.

The very successful musical revue *I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking it On the Road* will certainly be keeping its act together throughout the summer. After nine months of rigorous performing, actress *Judith Lander* is taking a five-week rest to be replaced by *Diane Stapley*.

## Goings on and about

The goodbye roast for Universal's *Bill Soady*, organized by publicist *Barry Carnon*, was quite a literary and gastronomic event. The over 150 industry friends celebrating Soady's promotion to Vice President and General Sales Manager and his move to New York and inevitably Los Angeles were treated to the wit and wisdom of an inimitable head table consisting of: *Jack Bernstein*, *Leonard Bernstein*, *Bobby Meyers*, *Chris Salmon*, *George Destounis*, *Michael Taylor*, *George Heiber*, *Eugene Amodeo* and *Bob Wilkinson*, Universal's Vice President who flew in from Los Angeles. And as the words flew, the food—all nine, kosher courses of it—kept coming and coming. Soady, always full of quippy quotes, certainly left all his Canadian well-wishers with quite a swan song... or was that chicken?

## Bookies

Toronto novelist *Joy Fielding* née Teperman, has sold the paperback rights to her latest book entitled *Kiss Mommy Goodbye* at a publisher's auction in New York for \$300,000. Doubleday has published the hardcover edition of this novel that tells the trying tale of a divorced woman searching for her children who have been abducted by her former husband.

The Toronto-based General Publishing Company outbid four competitors for the paperback rights of *Jean Pelletier's* and *Claude Adams' The Canadian Caper*, the account of the six Americans who escaped from Iran. Macmillan of Cana-

da reports hardcover sales of over 100,000. U.S. rights have been sold to William Morrow. In the past few months, General Publishing paid \$65,000—Canadian record price—for the paperback rights to *The Northern Magus*, Richard Gwyn's biography of Pierre Trudeau.

The Writer's Union of Canada and the Association of Canadian Publishers are working on a major study of the business of books in Canada. It is sincerely hoped that the findings of this two year study will provide an intelligent base for change from within and from without. Organizers of the Canadian Book Inquiry are seeking private as well as public funding. While the Canadian government has infused \$20 million into the industry, it is obvious that books cannot live by money alone. Production costs are very high; the Canadian market is very small; distribution and marketing systems are very antiquated and a lot of people are very depressed.

## Worth forgetting

The latest joke around Toronto's financial circles goes something like this. "I just made a killing on Bay Street. I shot my broker." Caveat Broker.

## For love and money

If you've got a worn only once, well maybe twice, wedding gown and just don't know

what to do with, then a newly created service called *Jewel Gowns* may have the answer. Bridal apparel, in mint condition of course, is sold on consignment. Sizes range from 5 to 18, in styles ranging from peasant to pretentious, in prices ranging from \$60 for polyester to \$375 for opulent with matching train and headpiece. Second marriage outfits in colours other than, of course, white are also available.

The 35 year old owner of *Conversations Unlimited* just got plain ole sick and tired of handing out good ole loving, no-nonsense advice for free. Two years ago, she started her own advice via telephone business and her phones haven't stopped dingalinging. Most of her callers are men, ranging from the type who can't meet girls in bars to those who wear women's clothing. Talking about dingalings... For her service, simply send her a \$50 cheque and presto, you're eligible to ring her at a specific time for your 20 minute chat. Although she admits to no training in psychology or the healing sciences, she contends that she has majored in life and has a natural ability with people.

## And in conclusion:

Whether you're doing the Cannes-Cannes or the can't can't, May you all enjoy. ●

## Negotiations stall between ACTRA-producers: new offer

TORONTO — Although the ACTRA membership has ratified the industry agreement which would cover all actors and freelance writers in their relations with the four major film production groups—The Canadian Film and Television Association, the Canadian Association of Motion Picture Producers, the National Film Board and the Association des Producteurs de Film du Québec, the producers groups have found some snags.

Representatives of CAMPP and the CFTA have submitted a new proposal to ACTRA, and the two groups open negotiations again on June 1.

The proposal touches on two areas.

First, the producers wish to differentiate between films which are financed through the capital cost allowance, and those which are not. They would be prepared to accept ACTRA's tougher regulations concerning foreign actors on CCA films, but want more latitude on non-CCA shoots.

Second, the producers want to open discussions about residual payments, especially concerning the use of films on normal television.

The agreements, which had been accepted in principal by negotiators for both sides, outline pay scales, contractual procedures and working relationships between producers, performers and writers.

## Ron Levine

Photographer for the Academy of Canadian Cinema at the 1981 Genie Awards



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A joint project of the Nova Scotia  
Department of Culture, Recreation and  
Fitness, and the Association of Canadian  
Television and Radio Artists