

E A S T E R N W A V E

by Chris Majka

In the land of Cabot and Smallwood work has started on Gordon Pinsent's **John and the Missus**, but Ken Pittman's **Finding Mary March** has been postponed until June, 1987. Despite down

to the wire negotiations, sufficient funds had not been raised to give the project a go-ahead this shooting season.

In New Brunswick Tony Merzetti has taken over as coordinator for the N.B.

Filmmakers Co-op in Fredericton. The Co-op is engaged in post-production work on a film called **Spectre of Rexton**. It is a 1/2 hour drama based upon a story of N.B. journalist, writer, and raconteur Stuart Trueman and is directed by Kevin Holden. Rexton is a small town on the Acadian shore of Nova Scotia where, in

the 1820s a young woman was murdered by her husband. Local legend maintained her ghost continued to haunt a certain section of the road where she had once lived. This legend was given a certain tangibility in the 1930s when a couple of local rum-runners resurrected her ghost to help keep passerbys away from the

site of their still.

Bob MacLeod and Delia Smith, two other Co-op members shot a short film called **Road Life** last year. It follows the life of a man who drives a petrol transport truck as he makes his rounds of the service stations. Bob MacLeod is back from England, where he is now making his home, and is cutting together this nine-minute production.

Also in Fredericton John Pederson (of **Ski Peru** fame) has established a company called Capital Films. With assistance from the Department of Employment and Immigration this company is attempting to establish a 35mm film industry. Their first venture is a low-budget feature called **Philip** which was shot during the month of May in the vicinity of Fredericton. It is adapted from a story by New Brunswick author (recently nominated for the Governor General's Award) David Adams Richards. Set on the Miramichi, it is the story of a man returning to his home town after a prison sentence and the reaction of the community to his return. John is currently at work editing the film in Fredericton.

BEFORE BEGINNING VIDEO POST-PRODUCTION, ASK QUESTIONS



QUESTION #6 - TECHNICAL COMPATIBILITY?

A post-production job consisting of film transfer, off-line and on-line editing is a reasonably complex task. Be sure to assign over-all technical responsibility to one organization (in your view the one best qualified to handle it). If you use more than one house be sure they talk to each other before editing begins, but obviously it simplifies things for everyone concerned, if the edit house chosen can supply all the elements required for the complete job.

Watch this spot in coming months for more helpful questions about video post-production.

★ ★ FILM TO TAPE TRANSFERS ★ ★

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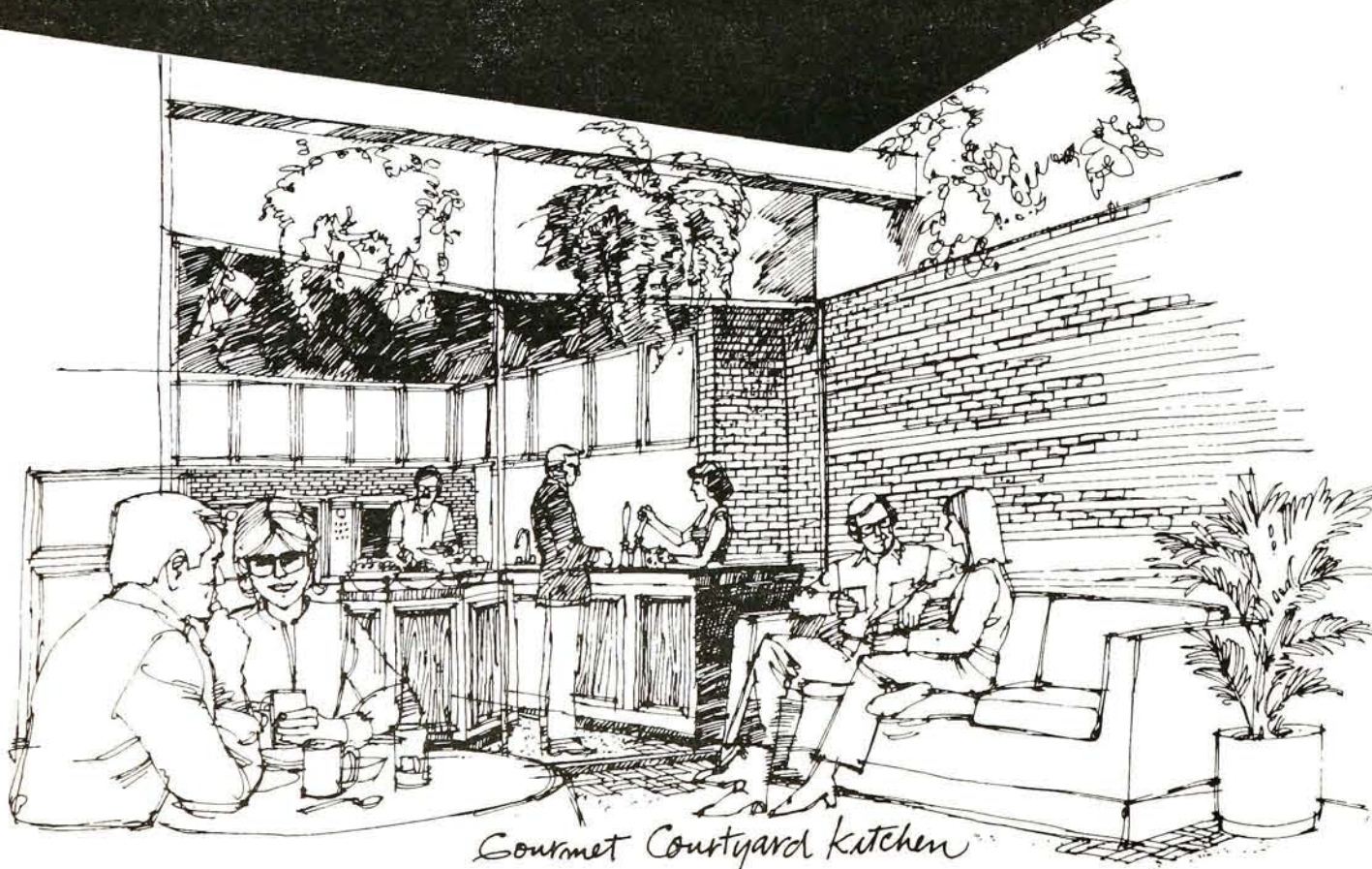
ONE-STOP POST-PRODUCTION



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Word has come to me about a film called **Le Tapis de Grand-Pré** directed by Philippe Comeau, an Acadian filmmaker from Nova Scotia now living in Montreal. It is a half-hour drama for an international series called "Legends of the World" and is financed by Telefilm, Radio-Quebec, TV Ontario and Antenne-2 in France. It is the story of a brother and sister who encounter various obstacles as they search Nova Scotia to find the missing pieces of a magic hooked rug made in 1755. It was shot entirely in the Chéticamp area of Cape Breton during the month of March and is currently in post-production in Montreal.

In Halifax, Picture Plant, headed by Bill MacGillivray of **Aerial View** and **Stations** repute, is in pre-production of another feature called **Life Classes**. As per usual Bill is characteristically tight-lipped about all aspects of the script and production until the film is ready to be released. But he did tell me that the story is set in Halifax and Cape Breton and concerns a woman who teaches at the College of Art and Design. After the logistics extravaganza that shooting **Stations** was, he is anxious to keep this production as uncomplicated as possible. They are considering shooting in super 16mm and if all goes



well production will commence in September.

At the Centre for Art Tapes (CFAT) Cathy Quinn has assembled a package of recent CFAT productions including **Katie** by Dean Brousseau, **Wallace** and **Teresa** by Jan Peacock, **Commercial Cul-**

ture by Popular Projects, **Crossing The 49th** by Mark Verabioff, and **Survival: Still The Issue** by Melodie Calvert, Nancy Davis, and Caroline Murray-Crick. She is touring this video package across Canada to centres in Halifax, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Toronto, and Ottawa along with a performance

piece called **Hali-Facts** to introduce the series.

From Doomsday Studios comes word that president Ramuna MacDonald is on her way to the Middle East to arrange to shoot a drama in the United Arab Emirates. While in Cannes this year she started discussions with film representatives from that country and

the result is **Golden Sand, Silver Water**, a romance set in the Persian Gulf in the 1870s. Negotiations are still in the early stages but production is planned for November and December of 1987. Besides the animation work which Doomsday is involved in, they have also in recent years become quite involved in live action

drama. Another international project somewhere on the burners for Doomsday is **Gifts of Amber**, a feature drama to take place in a Bavarian castle in Germany.

Michael Donovan of Salter Street Films (formerly Surfacing Films and now, paradoxically, located on Barrington Street) is busy at work arranging a six-part comedy series to be co-produced with CBC featuring Newfoundland's masters of lunacy and political satire, "Codco". Progress has been slow, he told me, but production is slated to begin in September. Meanwhile other brother, Paul Donovan, known for his survival/sci-fi flicks **South Pacific, 1942, Siege,** and **Def-Con 4** has been travelling around the world seeking a location for his newest script, a time travel/survival film. Latest word is that **Normanicus** will commence production in mid September in the mountains of southern Argentina which are said to resemble the script's locale - Switzerland in the year 60 AD!

C F T A N O M I N A T I O N F O R M

1986 CFTA AWARDS FOR PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT

The 1986 CFTA Awards will present Personal Achievement Awards to a Producer and one other industry individual in the following categories:

- TELEVISION ENTERTAINMENT
- TELEVISION ADVERTISING
 - FEATURE FILMS
 - MUSIC VIDEOS
- CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Submit your nomination for a producer or one other individual you think has reached a career milestone, or has made a contribution to our industry, through a personal achievement over the past 12 months. The Producer nomination is anyone with a Producer or Executive Producer credit. The other individual could be a director, actor, writer, creative department person, technician, government representative, advertising agency person, client, distributor, industry supplier, etc.

Recipients will be chosen by the CFTA and a representative industry panel.

I am nominating _____ of _____ (company), who is a _____ (function) in the category of _____ because _____

Include additional information if relevant. Video cassettes may also be submitted - 3/4" or 1/2" VHS format only! Submitted materials will be returned on request only.

Submitted by _____

Telephone number (____) _____

Date _____ (All nominations must reach the

CFTA office no later than September 12, 1986.) Send to:
 CFTA, 651 Yonge St., 3rd Floor, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2N7
There is no charge for submitting nominations.

Recipients of the 1986 CFTA Personal Achievement Awards will be announced prior to the Gala Awards Dinner on October 23rd, 1986.



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On Prince Edward Island the Island Media Arts Co-op is at work on a number of projects. In April they shot a short humorous drama called **Morning After**. Directed by Pamela Gallant it is slated to be 15-20 minutes long. They are currently synching rushes and awaiting news on further funding for the project. Coordinator Dave Ward is working on a film called **Retrieval**, a personal documentary using sculpture. Rick Gibbs is also working on a film which is taking the form of reminiscences using footage which was originally shot in the 1960s.

Bold Steps taken in Padua festival by Primedia and CBC

PADUA, ITALY - **Bold Steps**, Toronto-based Primedia Production's 90-minute documentary about the evolution of the National Ballet of Canada, picked up an award at the International Festival of Documentary Films held here in early June.

The silver and marble trophy awarded to the production (produced in association with the BBC and CBC, with Telefilm support) was accepted by its director, Briton Cyril Frankel. Produced by Primedia's Pat Ferns, **Bold Steps** was telecast in the 1984-85 television season in Britain and Canada.