

O'Keefe increases support to WFF, Godard to come

MONTREAL — The O'Keefe Brewing Company will contribute close to \$100,000 to the Montreal World Film Festival, Aug. 21 to Sept. 1.

At a recent press conference, O'Keefe president Ed Prévost, former chairman of Telefilm Canada, presented a cheque for \$60,000 to Serge Losique, director of the 11-year-old festival. An additional \$40,000 investment, says Prévost, will take the form of promotional services and beer.

"We have decided to better promote art and culture in Quebec through various sponsorships," says Prévost.

O'Keefe's renewed support follows a one-year absence from the film festival after failing to agree on an appropriate level of sponsorship with the festival.

The O'Keefe Award will be presented to the best Canadian full-length film.

Jean-Luc Godard is expected to attend the festival where his features, **King Lear** (a work in progress at the Cannes Festival) and **Keep Your Right Up**, will be screened on "Godard Day" near the end of the festival.

Two independently produced American films will have their directorial debut. They

are **Vern Miller** by Rod Hewitt and **Perfect Match** directed by Mark Deimel.

Rampage, a courtroom drama by William Friedkin, will have its world premiere in the Official Competition.

Also premiering is the first feature film produced by Philip Jackson's Motion Canada Media Productions Ltd. **Platinum** is produced by Kiki Sarda and Peter Evanchuck who also directs the film.

Merchant Ivory Productions which drew eight Oscar nominations this year, for **Room With A View** will receive special attention at the festival. Ismail Merchant and James Ivory, the principals of the 25-year-old production company, will attend the five-film retrospective which will include the world premiere of **Maurice** based on E.M. Forster's posthumously published autobiography.

Also to be honored by the festival is Garth Drabinsky, chief executive of Cineplex-Odeon, for "his unique contributions to the rejuvenation of the movie-going experience." Among the guests invited to the luncheon, August 27 at the Meridien Hotel will be Pierre Trudeau, Christopher Plummer and Jack Val-

enti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Five films from the U.S.S.R., including Nikita Mikhalkov's **Black Eyes**, will be screened in various categories as well as 15 Japanese features in the Japanese Cinema of Today section.

In addition to a strong showing of Spanish films, the Italian presence will include Mauro Bolognini's **Farewell Moscow** in the Official Competition. Francesco Rosi's **Chronicle of a Death Foretold**, Giuseppe Ferrara's **The Moro Affair** and **The Inquiry** by Damiano Damiani have been selected for the Hors Concours section.

Italian films programmed in the Cinema of Today and Tomorrow category are **Stregatti** by Francesco Nuti, **Cartoline Italiane** by Meme Perlini, **An Altar for the Mother** by Edith Bruck.

Five members of the jury have been named. They are Quebec director Jean Beaudin,

Czech director Jiri Menzel, Japanese film critic Tadao Sato, Brazilian producer Carlos Barreto and Chinese actor/director Sun Daolin. The jury will award the Grand Prix of the Americas to the best feature-length film as well as prizes for best actor and best actress and two jury prizes. The Montreal Grand Prix is awarded to the best short with a jury prize for the runner-up.

A full schedule, program and pre-sale tickets will be available

from the festival as of August 15.

The Montreal International Film, TV and Video market will be held Aug. 23 to Aug. 29 as an adjunct to the festival. Producers, exporters and distributors, representing over 60 countries will meet in the Hotel Meridien. Strong Canadian attendance is expected in the Televidcan section devoted to selling Canadian television and video programming.

Kula to head Jewison's Centre

TORONTO — Sam Kula has been appointed director of the Canadian Centre for Advanced Film Studies. Kula was the director of the Moving Image and Sound Archives of Canada since 1973. He has also worked at the National Film Archives in London.

The announcement was made by Norman Jewison, co-chairman of the board of directors. A selection committee is current-

ly reviewing over 200 applications for 12 positions as residents of the centre. The first course will begin in January. The final selection of residents will be complete in late summer.

As director, Kula will supervise the financial, administrative and academic operation of the centre.

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Fest of Festivals sports strong Canadian selection

TORONTO — The financial rewards of making Canadian movies are not always abundant, but Toronto's Festival of Festivals has bumped up the monetary return this year for one production.

The festival has increased its award for excellence in Canadian movie production to \$25,000 from \$15,000 last year. Festival organizers say the \$25,000 award is the largest cash prize awarded at any North American film festival.

The award is co-sponsored by the City of Toronto and the television station Citytv and is open to all Canadian films entered in the festival.

The Perspective Canada section of this year's festival will present features, shorts and documentaries that were selected from more than 200 films.

Patricia Rozema's acclaimed feature *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing* will kick off the 12th annual Festival of Festivals as opening night gala.

Opening the Perspective Canada segment of the festival is Giles Walker's comedy *The Last Straw*, which is a sequel to his hilarious 1985 movie *90 Days*.

Also scheduled as a gala this year is the world premiere of *Too Outrageous* by Dick Benner, a sequel to the popular 1977 Canadian feature *Outrageous*. *Too Outrageous* will reunite female impersonator Craig Russell and Hollis McLaren. Some of the other Canadian feature films include *And Then You Die* by Francis Mankiewicz, *The Climb* by Donald Shebib, *Un Zoo la nuit* by JeanClaude Lauzon, *Undivided Attention* by Chris Gallagher, *Taking Care* by Clarke Mackey and *Family Viewing* by Atom Egoyan.

The North American premiere of Barbet Schroeder's *Barfly* is set as another gala presentation at this year's festival, which is scheduled to run Sept. 10-19. *Barfly* stars Mickey Rourke and Faye Dunaway

and is a story that follows the lives of the two from the world of the Golden Horn Bar.

At a recent press reception, festival executive director Helga Stephenson ended speculation about a new venue for the galas by announcing that the festival will use the 1,250-seat Ryerson Theatre located on Gerrard Street East near Yonge.

Festival organizers scoured the city in an attempt to find replacements for the now closed University Theatre and Towne Cinemas both of which were located along Bloor Street. Use of the Ryerson Theatre marks a spreading out of the festival from a tighter three block area.

Stephenson later said that the Ryerson Theatre is further from the festival's core area than other theatres, but added it's the best downtown venue with more than 1,000 seats. Stephenson said she would like to get the galas back into the core in the future.

Other theatres to be used in

clude the Varsity 1 and 2, the Cumberland 3 and 4, the Uptown 1, the Showcase and the Royal Ontario Museum Theatre.

The budget for this year's Festival of Festivals is \$1.6 million, which is about the same as last year, Stephenson said. One-third of the money comes from government, one-third from festival box-office and one-third from private patrons and corporate sponsors. In addition, Stephenson said, the festival receives an extra \$400,000 in goods and services from various sources.

A total of about 220 feature films and 80 documentaries and short films will be shown, she added.

The Canadian premiere of Peter Watkins' monumental 14.5 hour documentary *The Journey* on life in a world tempered by the continuous threat of nuclear annihilation will be held at this year's festival.

Festival program director Piers Handling calls *The Journey* the most ambitious documentary he has ever seen. It was filmed in a dozen countries, on five continents and in eight different languages.

Also scheduled this year is *Eastern Horizons: New Asian Pacific Cinema*, a collection of 40 films from Hong Kong, The Philippines, Taiwan, China, South Korea and Viet Nam. Programmed by David Overbey, the Asian films selected will represent those made in the last ten years.

Overbey said the program is intended to build bridges between Canada and the Asia-Pacific world and is also designed to entertain.

Films by the controversial young Spanish director Pedro Almodovar will also be featured this year with six productions since 1980 on the program.

Included again will be *Contemporary World Cinema*, which offers the most recent films from around the world.

The Trade Forum will run from September 11-14 at the Park Plaza Hotel with discussions focused on the topics of The Creative Producer, Distribution and Financing. Workshops on Low Budget Features and Development, Television Co-production and Canadian Film Distribution and Marketing are scheduled as well.

Stephenson also said that for the first time the festival is moving into the T-shirt business. Festival T-shirts and sweat-shirts specially designed by Barbara Klunder will be on sale at the box office.

This year's festival poster was designed by Robert Burns, who also designed the first Festival of Festivals poster. Burns used

special computer graphics to prepare this year's version.

Malo has three films on go

MONTREAL -- *Pin*, a suspense-thriller, directed and written by Sandor Stern, will begin shooting in Montreal on August 24 for six weeks. Executive producer is Pierre David, producer is René Malo, Guy Dufaux is director of photography.

Pin will be produced by Lance Entertainment. The Malofilm Group and New World will distribute the film in Canada and the U.S., respectively.

In production under the Malofilm Group banner is *The Revolving Doors (Les Portes Tournantes)*, a Canada/France co-production directed by Francis Mankiewicz. This \$3.7 million film is based on the novel, *Les portes tournantes*, by Jacques Savoie who assisted Mankiewicz in writing the screenplay. Shooting locations include Almonte, Ontario, and the Eastern Townships of Quebec until August 17.

The Malofilm Group has joined forces with Rose Films to shoot *The Mills of Power*, written and directed by Claude Fournier. Shooting of this \$6 million Canada/France co-production began in Paris, France, May 4, and will continue in Ste. Hyacinthe, Montreal, Sherbrooke and Drummondville.

A seven project film and television deal will be developed by The Malofilm Group with Wacko Entertainment of Alberta. These properties include: *Strikers Mountain -- The Series*, *The Button*, *Dragonfall*, *Zombie*, *The Last Romantic Guy*, *The Hunt*, *Wing and a Prayer*.

CBC sets up hosting unit

OTTAWA — A host broadcast unit has been established by the CBC to give live audio and video coverage of various international events taking place in Canada.

Executive director of the unit will be David Knapp, a 20-year veteran of the corporation. The CBC says that the formation of the unit will allow greater economic use of the corporation's resources for specially-contracted host broadcast packages. Among the first assignments will be the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting to be held in Vancouver, October 13 to 17, 1987.

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