

Night Heat tops Gemini awards *Quebec toughens law*

TORONTO — Alliance Entertainment production **Night Heat** was the major winner at the 1987 Gemini Awards, picking up four prizes, including Best Dramatic Series (Sonny Grosso, Andras Hamori, Larry Jacobson and Stephen J. Roth, producers).

The highly-rated police drama also took *TV Guide's* Most Popular Program Award, voted on by readers of the magazine. R. B. Carney won **Night Heat** another Gemini for Best Writing in a Dramatic Series ("The Hit"), and Eugene Clark won Best Performance by a Supporting Actor for the episode "Fire and Ice".

Now in their second year, the Geminis — presented by the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television for excellence in broadcasting — were handed out on December 8 and 9 at the Metro Convention Centre in Toronto. The second night's program was broadcast live on the CBC network and hosted by SCTV-alumni Eugene Levy and Andrea Martin.

Best Comedy Series went to **Seeing Things** (produced by David Barlow, Louis Del Grande and Martin Wiener), which completed its final season this year. Del Grande collected another trophy for Best Performance by a Lead Actor in a Continuing Role in a Comedy Series for the episode "Here's Looking at You".

Dinah Christie took home the award for Best Performance by a Lead Actress in a Continuing Role in a Comedy Series for **Check It Out!** ("Love and Marriage").

The critically-acclaimed youth series **Degrassi Junior High** straddled generations at the Geminis, winning both Best Children's Series (Kit Hood and Linda Schuyler, producers), and Best Direction in a Dramatic or Comedy Series (Kit Hood, for the episode "It's Late").

Bill Gough's **The Marriage Bed** won as Best TV Movie, with Vivian Reis picking up the Best Supporting Actress prize for her performance in the film.

Ford: The Man and the Machine was awarded Best Dramatic Mini-Series (producer David J. Patterson), and also picked up prizes for art direction and costume design.

Awards for acting were spread over a number of shows. Booth Savage won as Best Lead Actor in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series for **The Last Season**. Victoria Snow was voted Best Lead Actress in the same category for **Daughters of the Country**, "The Wake". There was a tie for Best Lead Actor in a Con-

tinuing Dramatic Role. Eric Peterson in **Street Legal** ("Even Lawyers Sing the Blues") and Winston Rekert in **Adderly** ("Adderly With Egg-roll") split the honours. **Adderly's** Dixie Seattle also picked up a Gemini for Best Actress in a Continuing Dramatic Role. (The episode was "A Matter of Discretion.")

In information programming, **The Journal** picked up the prize as Best Information Series (Mark Starowicz, producer), while the **fifth estate's** Hana Gartner carried away a Gemini for best host, interviewer or anchor ("By the Book").

Donald Brittain's **The Champions Part III: The Final Battle** (coproduced with Adam Symansky) was the recipient of two Geminis, for Best Documentary Program, and Best Direction in an Information or Documentary Program or Series. Brittain, one of Canada's most respected and awarded documentarians, collected another Gemini for Best Documentary Writing in **Tommy Douglas: Keeper of the Flame**.

The CBC's Joe Schlesinger took home two Geminis: the Gordon Sinclair Award for Best Broadcast Journalist (**The Journal**, "The Last Great Cause"), and an award for Best Reportage (**The National**, "Irangate").

The John Drainie Award for Distinguished Contributions to Broadcasting went to Ross McLean. CBC writer Grahame Woods was presented with the Margaret Collier Award for an Outstanding Body of Work by a Television Writer. George Carter won the Best Technical Achievement Award for his work as Technical Producer of the "Rendez-vous For Peace".

A special Earle Grey Award for an Outstanding Body of Work by a Television Actor was presented posthumously to Lorne Greene. Actor Leslie Nielsen made the presentation.

Other awards presented: Best Short Drama: **The Truth About Alex**, prod. John Brunton and Martin Harbury. Best Documentary Series: **The Nature of Things**, prod. James Murray. Best Performing Arts Program: **A Moving Picture**, prod. Niv Fichman and Larry Weinstein.

Best Variety Series: **S & M Comic Book**, prod. Cynthia Grech. Best Variety Program: **The Ian and Sylvia Reunion**, prod. Sandra Faire, Sylvia Tyson and Alan Kates.

Best Special Event Coverage: **Royal Wedding**, prod. Arnold Amber (Global). Best Pay T.V. Dramatic Program or Series:

Daughters of the Country, prod. Norma Bailey, Michael Scott and Ches Yetman.

Best Animated Program or Series: **Babar and Father Christmas**, prod. Alison Clayton, Marilyn Read. Best Children's Program: **Down at Fraggle Rock: Behind the Scenes**, prod. Jim Henson, David Gumpel and Diana Birkenfield.

Best Sports Program or Series: **The Race is On!**, prod. Michael A. Charbon and Paul Hollidge. Best Performance by a Sports Broadcaster: Brian Williams, **Rendez-vous Hockey 1987**.

Best direction in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series: Martin Lavut **The Marriage Bed**. Best Direction in a Variety or Performing Arts Program or Series: Eric Till, **Fraggle Rock**, "The River of Life".

Best Writing in a Dramatic Series: R.B. Carney, **Night Heat**, "The Hit". Best Writing in a Dramatic Program or Mini-Series: Sharon Riis, **Daughters of the Country**, "The Wake". Best Writing in a Comedy or Variety Program or Series: Gerg Malone and Tommy Sexton, **S & M Comic Book**, "Episode 1".

Best Photography in a Dramatic Program or Series: Rene Ohashi, **The Truth About Alex**. Best Photography in a Comedy, Variety or Performing Arts Program or Series: Emil Kolompar, Paul Mockler, Rene Ohashi and Vic Sarin, **A Moving Picture**; and Nikos Evdemon, **Seeing Things**, "Gifted Pupils". Best Photography in an Information or Documentary Program or Series: Vic Sarin, **Man Alive**, "So Many Miracles". Best News Photography: Yhoram Pirotsky, **Nato Exercises** (World Report).

Best Picture Editing in a Dramatic Program or Series: Ron Wiseman, **Sword of Gideon**. Best Picture Editing in a Comedy, Variety or Performing Arts Program or Series: Vincent Kent, **Seeing Things**, "Spectacle of India". Best Picture Editing in an Information or Documentary Program or Series: Ron Piggott, **Man Alive**, "So Many Miracles".

Best Sound in a Dramatic Program or Series: Claude Hazanavicius, Cathy Hunt, Christopher Hutton, Paul Massey, James Porteous, **Sword of Gideon**. Best Sound in a Comedy, Variety or Performing Arts Program or Series: D.D. Hill, Dave Ripka, Brian Stienburg, **It's Only Rock and Roll**, "The Pilot". Best Sound in an Information or Documentary Program or Series: Jim Frank, Don

MONTREAL — The Quebec government is in the process of tightening up the Quebec Cinema Act with the francophone viewer in mind.

At press time, the National Assembly in Quebec City was expected to approve changes in the Cinema Act which would ensure that distributors provide French-language dubbed versions of English-language films.

Although details of the amendment are uncertain, the Quebec film industry expects an opportunity to review a concrete proposal by February.

On Dec. 14, Lise Bacon, minister of Cultural Affairs, introduced the amendment with an admonition for a number of distributors who have not been complying with the spirit of the Cinema Act. The act specifies that subtitled or dubbed versions must be released 60 days after the release of the English-language film.

This eight-week period has historically allowed distributors to decide whether to dub the film in French or withdraw it.

Because of an overall preference in the market place for

dubbed versions, rather than subtitled films, the amendment will require distributors to show a dubbing contract and promise to use an equal number of French-language venues after a yet to be determined "reasonable delay".

The intent of the amendment, explained by Bacon at a press conference, is to force distributors to dub English-language films more quickly.

Abuses of the act in the past include having the French version available but not playing it or having a subtitled print available with the sole intention of prolonging the run of the English-language film.

"It is necessary to create a francophone cultural space to counter the strong influence of the English language especially in the area of computers, records, movies and television," says Bacon.

André Link, president of Association Québécoise des Distributeurs et Exportateurs de Films et de Vidéo, says the Quebec government has compelling reasons to implement this amendment. He says distributors are waiting for details with interest.

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Lauron launches ambitious plans

TORONTO — Lauron Entertainment Group has unveiled \$19 million worth of feature film and television productions over the next 12 months.

Lauron, which also announced a company restructuring, has a slate of movies in various stages of development that include:

- **Shoot Me**, a \$3 million feature about an American student who comes to Canada in 1969 to resolve his crisis of conscience over the Vietnam war;
- **Something's Gotta Give**, a romantic comedy to be made in Ontario on a \$2.3 million budget;
- **Miss Helen**, a \$3 million drama about South Africa to be shot in April 1988;
- **Remember Julie**, a mystery-thriller to be shot in Toronto in the summer of 1988 on a \$3 million budget.

Lauron chairman Ronald Lillie said the production slate and restructuring of the company is a departure point for the firm. He explained that Lauron was a focused, single-tier company, but now with interests in feature films and television it only makes sense to change the company's setup.

Three Lauron divisions have been established to handle the various types of productions to

be made by the company. Lauron Productions Ltd. will make documentaries, shorts, commercials and corporate videos, with Lauron Pictures making feature films and Lauron Television producing made-for-television movies, sitcoms and series.

In television, Lauron's plans include:

- a group of three programs on the Calgary Olympics to be made on a \$1.5 million budget;
- **The Day the Torch Came to Town**, a 30-minute drama with a \$250,000 budget;
- a \$1 million television special called the **Olympic Team Benefit**;
- **The Challengers Movie** will be a two-hour television movie slated to be made in April 1988 on a \$2 million budget;
- a 13-part children's television series called **The Challengers** made on \$2.9 million.

Lauron partner William Johnston is president of the new company. Other executive members of Lauron include Ralph Endersby, managing director of the television division; Jack Bond, director of creative affairs; Christina Jennings, producer; Peggy Carr, director of business affairs; Lisa Olman, director of marketing and communications.

Geminis

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Harder, Anthony J.R. Lancett, Paul Massey, Aerlyn Weissman, **Whalesong**.

Best Production Design or Art Direction: William Beeton, **Ford: The Man and the Machine**. Best Costume Design: Louise Jobin, **Ford: The Man and the Machine**.

Best Music Composition for a Program (Dramatic Underscore): Georges Delerue, **Sword of Gideon**. Best Music Composition for a Series (Dramatic Underscore): Glenn Morley, Lawrence Shragge, **The Campbells**, "Unwelcome Suitor"

Best Production of an Information Segment: Carl Connell, John Darroch, Duncan MacFarlane, Kathryn Oughtred, Jim Reed, **W5**, "Missing Jutra"

Best Guest Performance in a Series by an Actor or Actress: Ed MacNamara, **Seeing Things**, "Another Point of View" (presented posthumously). Best Performance in a Variety or Performing Arts Program or Series: Tommy Sexton, Greg Malone, **S & M Comic Book** "Episode 1".

Music maker

MONTREAL — Music Prose, a recording company specializing in film sound tracks, has moved its head office from New York to Montreal.

Kevin Hunter, principal of the company, says the decision to move follows work on **Toby McTeague** produced by Film-line International and **Hitting Home** (a.k.a. **Keeping Track**) produced by Telescene Films.

A native Montrealer, Hunter has managed recording groups on both sides of the border.

CAB award

TORONTO — Donald C. Brinton, president of CanWest Broadcasting Ltd. and SaskWest Television Inc. has received the the highest honour bestowed by the Canadian private television industry.

Brinton was presented with the Gold Ribbon Award for Distinguished Service at the annual convention of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, in mid-November.

The award recognized Brinton's career as a broadcaster spanning 37 years on the provincial, regional and national level.

CINEMA

bound volumes cover Canadian cinema from cover-to-cover (1972-1983)

Bound volumes of all but the first seven issues of **Cinema Canada** are now available.

Vol. 1 has sold out, and Vol. 3 is a limited edition of 60 copies, while recent volumes are limited to 50 copies each.

Due to scarcity of individual issues, Vol. 8 is a limited edition of 40 copies.

Vol. 1	(1972) Sold Out	—	Vol. 7	(Nos. 51-59) 1978-79	\$35
Vol. 2	(Nos. 8-14) 1973-74	\$40	Vol. 8	(Nos. 60-72) 1979-80	\$60
Vol. 3	(Nos. 15-20) 1974-75	\$50	Vol. 9	(Nos. 73-80) 1980-81	\$35
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For further information, contact Shona C. Rossel, program coordinator, Communication Arts, at (403) 284-8084.

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