

GREG KLYMKIW



Guy Maddin, director of the Canadian cult classic, *Tales From the Gimli Hospital*, is currently in pre-production with his latest wacky feature, *Archangel*, a twisted romantic comedy set in a Siberian city amidst the turmoil of the Russian Revolution. Maddin recently held a national talent search to find an all-new leading lady for his feature. "I needed a Slavic cross between Greer Garson and Louise Brooks." Silly Maddin didn't need to search all over the country, however, since Winnipeg is the Canadian capital of Slavs. Maddin chose **Kathy Marykuca**, a 23-year-old Criminology student, from over one hundred hopefuls. Marykuca will be portraying Veronkha, a lusty, feisty Russian soldier-nurse.

Pic is being almost entirely shot in a Peg warehouse. Maddin, who is not only the writer and director of the film, is also assuming the duties of production designer, art director, director of photography, editor and sound editor. "I don't like people looking over my shoulder," said Maddin, "my films are unnerving enough." Maddin has designed an entire city, a battlefield (complete with trenches), a Murmansk Honeymoon Hotel and numerous other expressionistic period set-pieces.

SPEAKING OF SIBERIA

CIDO's **Alana Langelotz** reports that Salt Lake City-based Christensen Creative Films will begin shooting their 12 million buckola adventure flick *The Point (AKA Mig Pilot)* in Manitoba during the latter portion of July. The shoot's going to go for at least nine weeks and those 12-mill are in glorious U. S. funds. Langelotz told me the names of the stars, but I can't tell you because it's real hush-hush right now. I can tell you that they are HOT!!! HOT!!! HOT!!! Another thing I can tell ya' 'bout this pic is that it's all about the famed Soviet defector **Victor Belenko**, and it's being directed by **Brian Hutton**. Hutton directed some real super stuff like *The First Deadly Sin* with ole-Blue-eyes, **Frankie** ("I'm Gonna Croon Ya' Fulla' Bullet Holes") **Sinatra**.

Pic is specifically being shot in Gimli, Manitoba. Gimli, that sleepy, little Icelandic resort town, is certainly turning into a celluloid hotbed. You'll recall that Guy Maddin first immortalized such local Gimli traditions as using fish guts for hair gel in *Tales From The Gimli Hospital*. It's predicted that the Christensen team will get a somewhat warmer reception than Maddin, who last year outraged the town's residents with his less-than-favorable portrait of their lifestyles and traditions. Langelotz claims that "the town is really looking forward" to *The Point* being shot there. Producer Bill Christensen is also impressed. "Gimli, Manitoba is the only place in the world where we could have shot this film, other than Siberia", said Christensen. Langelotz claims both the natural terrain in and around Gimli and the actual Gimli airforce base are proving "phenomenal" assets in wooing big bucks from out of province.

MORE TOBANS TRAINING

In other Langelotz/CIDO news, 20 Manitoban industry professionals will be attending workshops at the Banff Television Festival and the International Film and Television Workshop in Rockport, Maine. Funding for this stuff comes under CIDO'S invaluable Professional Development funding component.

Langelotz also reported that six folks have secured on-the-job training positions on the Peg-produced half-hour drama, *The Turn in the Road*. Pic is being helmed by **Elise Swerhone** and produced by **Joan Scott**.

EVERYONE WANTS TO JOIN THE MOB

Gabriel Markiw, co-director of the feature-length comedy, *Mob Story*, reports that 12 major distributors have expressed serious interest in the pic which toplines **John Vernon**, **Al Waxman** and **Margot Kidder**. Gabriel and Bro'Jancarlo just viewed a rough cut of their flick and are very pleased with the results. By the time you read this, they'll be into fine-cut stage. Gonna preem this pic at the Fest of Fests, guys?

DIGGIN' DUGGAN

Flamboyant Peg filmmaker **M. B. Duggan** (sometimes known as art bureaucrat **Bruce Duggan**) has just received word that the Foundation to Underwrite New Drama (FUND) is kicking in \$8500 to develop a feature-length script that Duggan wants to pen called *Smoked Lizard Lips*. Flick is a zany look at what happens when a South American dictator takes over a small, Northern Manitoba town. "It's sort of like Preston Sturges on acid," said Duggan. Sounds insane? You bet!!! And if you'd like to meet some of the folks responsible for the wacky and wonderful stuff being produced in the 'Peg, there will be a load of 'toban-types prowling the corridors of the Banff Park Lodge. By the way, CIDO is sponsoring a hospitality suite at the Banff TV Festival on June 5-7 in RM. 101 of the above named hotel.



THOMPSON - JAMES

ENTERTAINMENT INSURANCE BROKERS

INSURANCE PROTECTION FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Providing Insurance For:

- Commercials
- Feature Films
- Documentaries
- Special Events
- Television Series
- Theatrical Productions
- Producers' Errors & Omissions

Whether large or small, local or international, our specialists can provide the experience your productions require.

For Budget Estimates or Quotations Contact: Jack Thompson, Roger James, Kirk Thompson

CINEVILLAGE, 65 Heward Ave., Toronto, Ontario M4M 2T5
Tel.: (416) 465-6757 Fax (416) 461-7847
A Division of 788609 Ontario Inc.

ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL

The Ontario Arts Council offers grants to professional artists who are residents of Ontario, working in the following disciplines:

SCREENWRITING

to assist with the development of feature-length dramatic screenplays.
Deadline: February 1

FILM

towards the production costs of documentary, dramatic, animated or experimental films.
Deadlines: April 1, November 1

VIDEO

to assist with the production of original video art.
Deadlines: February 1, August 15

Please note: all applications must be supported by examples of recent work.

For further information and application forms, contact:

Film, Photography and Video Office
ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
151 Bloor Street West, Suite 500
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1T6 (416) 961-1660