# Get Classical

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**by Paul Campbell**

I will write this week on something that just happened: last night, in fact. It was the broadcast of a TV Special on the Canadian presence in the Netherlands during the Second World War, focusing on the perceptions and the war art of Alex Colville, and centered around the performance of a new piece of music for string quartet and clarinet by Canadian composer Al Fisher. I write of it because it is a good story, and something from which we can all learn. It is the story of how one person, because of his insights and energies, managed to accomplish something that resulted in good for all who were associated with it.

If you saw the Remembrance Day Special on CBC covering the visit of Alex Colville to Holland last year, you must agree it was a good program. It came about this way: Stan Fisher, Clarinet teacher at Acadia, ex-conductor of the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra, and generally super-busy musician, had a great idea a few years ago, and as I understand it, it went like this: Alex Colville, one of Canada's pre-eminent artists lives in Wolfville, and is Chancellor of Acadia. Al Fisher, Canadian composer of note, used to teach composition at Acadia, but is now at the University of Alberta in Calgary. Also, Stan had played on several occasions with the Oxford Quartet, Canada's premier quartet, and very much enjoyed the experience. Stan always liked Fisher's compositions, and had for some time had in mind the thought of commissioning a work from him for clarinet, but since he is not rich, it had to be an idea good enough to interest funding bodies, who would pay for it. Why not have Al write something inspired by the paintings of Colville - perhaps the war paintings? And why not have him make it a Clarinet Quintet, so Stan could invite the Orford to premier the work? Al liked the idea, the Orford like the idea, and the funding bodies bought it. Then came the work. Al settled down to write a major composition while the others anticipated. What might it be like? Will it be good? But Stan is not able to sit still too long and ideas kept occurring to him. This is a major thing, and in a sense a marriage of art and music. It involves a major Canadian figure; it would be a shame to just have it played a few times, and then tumble into neglect. Surely CBC would be interested in making a TV show out of this. Well, it turned out that CBC was anxious to broadcast it on radio, but not to do it for TV. ATV, however, was willing to air the show, but not able to finance the production of it. If Stan could get the money, then it would be aired. So, Stan started raising money. It's not particularly easy to get people to part with their hard won cash, but Stan is enthusiastic and persistent, and had enough success that it started to look as though the thing would go through when he found that the same people in CBC who had initially turned down the chance to do the program were willing to play ball. CBC would finance a small part of the production and Stan would find the rest. Well, find the rest he did, nearly $300,000.00 all told, and the work was given its grand premier in Ottawa last year. Then, several more performances, and it was off to Holland to play for the Princess, and make the program, which was partly under Stan's direction. The result was a fine and moving bit of television; Stan had a great adventure and a stellar entry for his curriculum vita, but in spite of all the money passing through his hands, didn't make any for himself! When I asked him if he had any regrets about that, he replied "hell no; I had two and a half years of the most intense living I could ask for, and had a ball doing it. There were moments when it looked like it might all go down the tubes, but I refused to accept that, and in the end, yup, it was worth it".

Concerts this week: today is the last of the fall series of noon hour concerts given by the Duo Pach (12:30 at Mem. Hall). If you haven't heard them go today, since today they visit Russia on their musical journey, and will play the F minor Sonata of Prokofieff, one of the great works in the literature.

The Manfred Trio, a young and dynamic clarinet/'cello/piano trio will play on the Creative Arts Mem Hall Series Sunday evening at 8 p.m. This highly acclaimed group will be of special interest to lovers of the 'liquorice stick'.

Next Wednesday I welcome Madeleine Arel, flute; Stephen Peacock, guitar and Sonja Adams, 'cello to my own series. We play the Schubert Quartet for flute, guitar, viola and 'cello, a most unusual and seldom heard work. There is quite a story that goes with it, which I will tell at the concert. Come and hear it: it is pleasing to the ear, and quite merry for the most part. Mem. Hall, Wednesday Nov. 14, 12:30.

**by Chris Campbell**

This weekend the UNB Film Society will be screening two documentaries dealing with the Holocaust. The first will be the 1968 documentary Germany Awake directed by E. Leiser, made from excerpts from various Nazi propaganda films. The second is Night and Fog, a 31 minute French documentary made in 1955.

It is an especially interesting film since it was directed by French New Wave film director, Allain Resnair. Resnair is well-known to many as the director of Hiroshima Mon Amour. Since Night and Fog is directed by a New Waves Film director, it is quite a departure from the conventional documentary style. Most of the footage is of empty extermination camps filmed after the War. These desolate images, combined with the angry voice of the narrator, create a chilling depiction of the atrocities committed by the Nazis during World War II. Screenings of both Germany Awake, and Night and Fog will be Friday, Nov. 9 and Saturday, Nov. 10 at 8:00 p.m. in Tilley Hall, Room 102.

The Capitol Film Society will be screening Mountain of the Moon by British Director, Bob Rafelson. Some of Rafelson's previous films include Five Easy Pieces (1970) starring Jack Nicholson and Stay Hungry (1976). There will be one screening on Monday, Nov. 12 at 8:00 p.m. in the Ecole St. Anne Auditorium.

## Submissions on Sexual Abuse Wanted

**Press Release**

Wild East Publishing Co-operative Limited is seeking creative writing from Atlantic Canada about child sexual abuse. Poetry, short fiction, drawings and drama will be considered. Material selected will be collected into an anthology to be published by Wild East in 1991.

"We're doing this because we see a need," says Margaret McLeod, who will edit the anthology. "Over the past few years we've noticed an increasing amount of writing in which child sexual abuse is an issue. It's not surprising - we're becoming more and more aware of how abuse damages as and society."

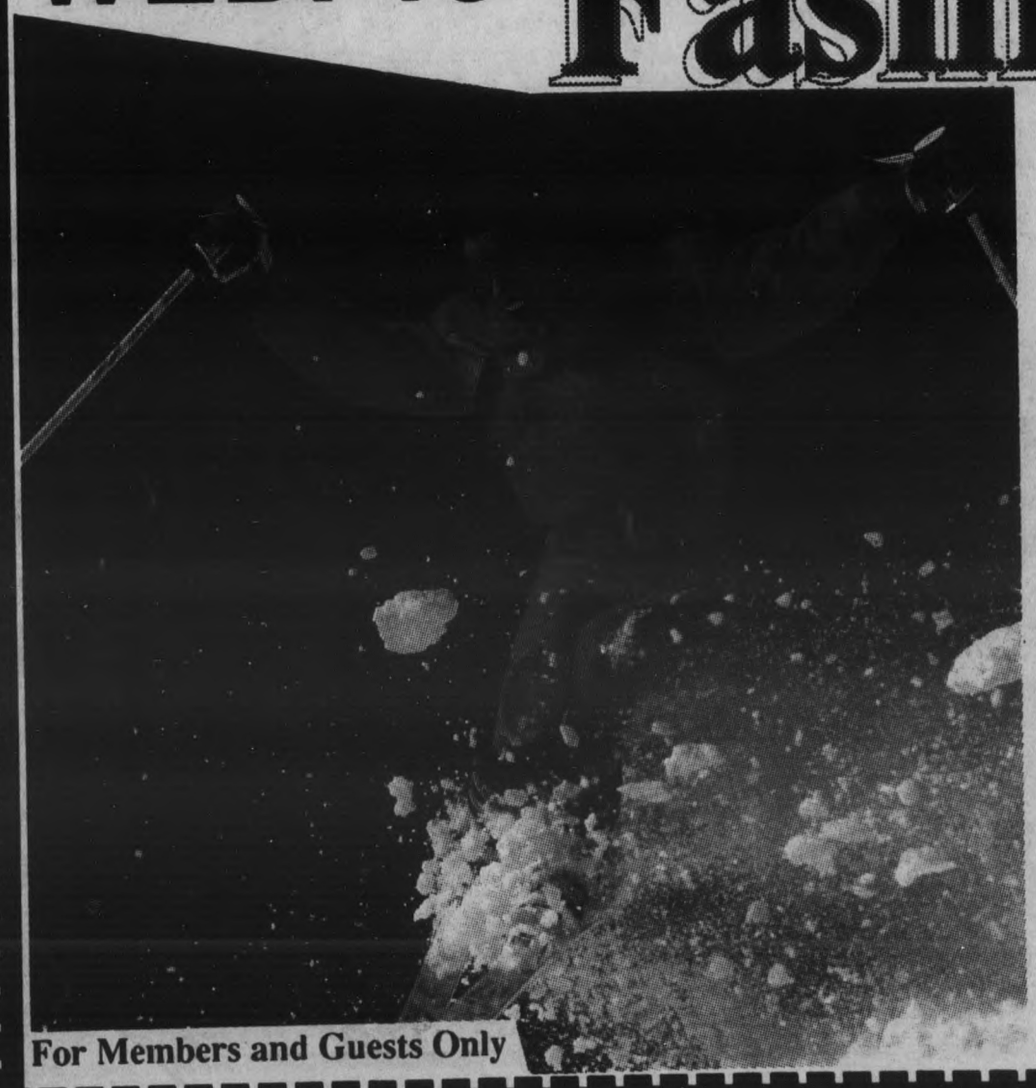
The anthology welcomes work both from writers exploring this issue, and from survivors using writing as a tool for healing. Pseudonyms and confidentiality will be respected.

Contributions must be received by December 31, 1990 to be considered for publication. Previously published material is welcome.

Send contributions along with a self-addressed stamped envelope, to: Margaret McLeod, Wild East Publishing Co-operative Limited, 201-467 Waterloo Row, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 1Z6

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