

Acclaimed Canadian movies to air on TV

Four Canadian movies that have earned critical acclaim in Canada and abroad are being aired by CBC-TV in a late-summer Canadian feature film series.

The films - I've Heard The Mermaids Singing, Blind Trust, Family Viewing and Life Classes - will air on four consecutive Thursday evenings, starting Aug. 23.

"All four of this summer's movies received a great deal of international critical acclaim, but they have rarely been seen outside of the major urban centres," said the CBC's Susan Duligal, co-ordinator for the series. "We'd like to provide these films with the broad national audience they deserve."

Patricia Rozema's I've Heard The Mermaids Singing, an award winner at the 1987 Cannes Film Festival, stars Sheila McCarthy as a wide-eyed amateur photographer whose job at an art gallery leads to an off-beat voyage of self-discovery. McCarthy's per-

formance earned her the 1988 Genie award for best actress. The movie airs Aug. 23.

Yves Simoneau's Blind Trust (Pouvoir Intime) is a suspense drama about an armored car robbery in Montreal that leaves a wounded guard locked in the back of the hijacked armored car. "A non-stop explosion of enticing colors and sounds, the psychodrama is as stylish - albeit in a steely, cold fashion - as it is involving," said Variety. It airs Aug. 30.

Atom Egoyan's Family Viewing (Sept. 6), which has won awards at a number of international film festivals, is a satire of family life and human relations in a world where television and video have taken centre stage.

William MacGillivray's Life Classes (Sept. 13), chosen as the best feature film at the 1987 Atlantic Film Festival, is a character study of a young Cape Breton woman who struggles to raise her children on her own. The Village



Bob Spence
Entertainment
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Voice called it "...a strange, hilarious tale of a person whose life is transformed by art."

Winged Warfare, Billy Bishop's 1918 tale of his life as Canada's top First World War flying ace, and Winged Peace, which Bishop wrote during the Second World War, have been released by McGraw-Hill Ryerson.

In a new, contemplative after-ward to Winged Peace, Bishop's

son, Arthur, assesses how well his father's predictions have stood the test of time.

Stand and Deliver, a one-hour comedy special featuring clips and interviews from the recent Molson Canadian Comedy Relief festival in Toronto, airs, Aug. 26 on Global TV.

More than 30 Canadian and foreign comedians participated in the festival, which raised money for the Friends of the Earth's Global Relief campaign to plant more than 15 million trees in Canadian cities and towns.

A second TV special on the festival will air on Global in December.

The road reopens Aug. 19. CBC-TV's popular Road to Avonlea series launches its second season with nine repeats, followed by 17 new episodes, including some that were filmed in 1989 but have

not yet aired.

Australian actor Mel Gibson did a little flying to prepare for his role of crazed aviator Gene Ryack in Air America, the recently released adventure/comedy movie.

"I'm not a licensed pilot, but I know a few rudimentary things about getting a plane in the air and what to do when it's there," Gibson said.



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The Return of Little Feat

By DIAHANN NADEAU
Herald Special

August 13th, Little Feat returned to Kingswood for their second Toronto concert in twenty years. The first was the blazing, brilliant, historic show of last summer.

Singer/guitarist Paul Barrere promised they would make it an annual event from now on, a promise Feat fans can only hope they'll keep.

This Feat concert lacked the crazed anticipation of last summer's - after all, we only had to wait a year instead of 20 - but it was a terrific show nonetheless.

The group (Paul Barrere, Fred Tarkett, Craig Fuller, Bill Payne, Richie Hayward, Kenny Gradney, Sam Clayton), opened with 'Hate to Lose Your Loving' from the Let It Roll album (the comeback album of two years ago), and went on to perform a lot of material from their latest, Representing the Mambo, including the infectious hits 'Rat Gumbo' and 'Texas Twister.'

Older songs were well represented, although there was less emphasis on the old material. And while the new songs can rightfully take their place beside some of the vintage Feat, one can't

help wanting to hear the old favorites.

They did perform 'Atlanta,' '44 Blues,' a Howlin' Wolf cover, and the deliciously sly 'Rocket in My Pocket,' and 'Old Folks Boogie' ('you know you're over the hill/when your mind makes promises your body can't fill'), and 'Dixie Chicken.' Songs that were not played included the lovely 'Willin,' and 'All That You Dream,' two absolute Feat classics. Nor did we hear 'Long Distance Dream,' or 'Feats Don't Fail Me Now.' The band has such a large catalogue of material that they can't possibly do it all, but one can't help wishing.

Little Feat remains one of the best ensembles in rock, seven musicians who play wonderfully individually and together. The four piece rhythm section gives them a distinctive sound, a driving edge. Nobody else sounds like Little Feat, they remain one of the few originals in rock.

That's a lot to say in these days of derivative, sound-alike pop. The Feat are finding a bigger audience

every year, and no one deserves to go beyond cult status more than these guys. Bonnie Raitt finally came into her own this year, and Little Feat may find some of the same recognition coming their way at last.

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