

Hill artist in show here for first time

RICHMOND HILL — Novelist Hugh Garner, an Indian woman from a reserve in Ontario, and George Moseley, first violinist of York Symphony Orchestra, may have never met.

But they'll be together in spirit, at least, for a couple of months, starting Dec. 9 at Richmond Hill Public Library.

That's the first day of an exhibition and sale of drawings, paintings and sculpture, featuring people, such as those above, by Olga Nickle of Cedar Ave., quite literally

drawn, as well as sculpted from all walks of life.

A reception will be held on both Thursday, Dec. 9, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., and on Saturday, Dec. 11, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

It will be the first showing here for Mrs. Nickle, who, for most of her life, has been using her artistic talents for her own pleasure, although having the occasional exhibition in Toronto, Burkes Falls and Huntsville.

But, now that her son

David is 12, she is branching out a bit from her job as a supply teacher of art and geography in North York.

Son, too
David, himself, draws constantly, she says, and also has written several books - mostly science fiction.

Mrs. Nickle has taught at Georgian College in Huntsville; in a one-room school at Kenora Indian Reserve; and was vice-principal at Don Head Secondary School in Richmond Hill in 1974-75.

She also did many of the illustrations for "Core", a book looking at the inner-city people of Toronto and their lives.

Mrs. Nickle's exhibition will feature people for the most part, because that's what she's "most interested in."

These works, too, are "the best of what I've done over the past 10 years", she said.

A self-taught artist —

"I learned how to do it on my own and then went to school to see if I was right" — Mrs. Nickle is interested now in seeing if other people feel she is right.

"I've been exhibiting my works since 1966," she said, "and have never been reviewed."

If, somehow the press doesn't get to see her works, maybe she can tear that son of hers away from his science fiction writings long enough to look at them in a critical capacity.

And he just might find that the people in his mother's world are even more exciting than those who inhabit that one way off in outer space that he designed for himself.



Olga Nickle
... art show

Photographer, too

RICHMOND HILL — An artist of another kind, is Elena Jasechko, who uses a camera to capture the moods around her. Some of these moods will be on display with the Nickle exhibition at the Richmond Hill library.

Primarily interested in landscapes, Mrs. Jasechko recently had her first showing at The Masterpiece Art Shoppe, 70 Gerrard St. in Toronto.

When not looking at landscapes through the eyes of her camera, she is directing and producing such shows as "Toronto Today", and "Uncle Bobby" at CFTO-TV in Toronto.

R.H. Thomson praised

TORONTO — R.H. Thomson, son of Professor and Mrs. W. S. Thomson of Major Mackenzie Dr., and a former member of the Curtain Club, came in for some praise from Globe and Mail drama critic, John Fraser, last week.

Reviewing "The Comedians",

now playing at St. Lawrence Centre, Fraser said that "R.H. Thomson nearly stole the show with his gentle and wonderful Mick. What a fine actor this man is developing into."

R.H.'s mother, Cicely, is directing "Rape of the Belt," now playing at the Curtain Club.

Entertainment

Slapstick or? play different

By Tom Davey

The Curtain Club's latest offering, *Rape of the Belt* by Ben W. Levy, is certainly a play with a difference.

While undeniably a comedy — indeed at times it develops into pure slapstick — there are philosophical undercurrents which gently mock established values, especially the male propensity for heroics.

Set in the time of ancient Greece, the plot centres around one of the labors of Heracles; in this case he has to obtain a royal belt from a civilization ruled by women.

Although physically a towering hulk of a man, Heracles is repeatedly frustrated by the wit and subtlety of his female opponents.

John Illingworth plays the part with exactly the right mixture of booming militance and ferociousness. He bellows, postures, fumes and sporadically erupts with volcanic fury.

Brian Moore plays his diminutive companion Theseus, a warrior with uncertain memory and fighting capabilities. The two make a formidable assault on the humorous potential in the author's lines, especially their puzzlement when they realize they really are in a woman's world.



John Illingworth
... volcanic fury

The play is observed, and occasionally narrated by two gods, Hera and Zeus, played by Dorothea Painter and Mervyn Mingail. But, being gods, they sometimes stop being passive spectators and interfere with the plot, metaphysically re-directing the traffic as it were.

With this supernatural intervention, naturally the scenes become chaotic, sometimes hilariously so.

June Abbott is effective as Hippolyte, a rather lazy woman fond of her creature comforts until the godly interventions transform her into a fighting Amazon.

Gracefully done
Vickery Cook plays the lovely Queen Antiope with sensitivity and grace, especially in the early

scenes when she spins words which confuse and baffle Heracles and Theseus.

Pat Kantaroff plays the unlikely role of a woman blacksmith in an Amazonian community in a convincing manner which generally gets laughs from the audience.

But, while the laughs flow as the play reaches its climax, the undercurrents of erudition, which were present in the early scenes, never seem to develop beyond simple comedy. A pity really. The early dialogue gave some promise of making us think more deeply as we examine the absurdities of Man. But the promise never materialized.

It is a good play with many funny moments, but it is not a great play.

The sets and costumes were excellent and a vast improvement on the last production when, for some reason or other, the standard of set design suffered a severe lapse. Set design was by Michael Matyas and costumes were by Martha Mann.

The play was directed by Cicely Thomson and will run for a further two weeks.

Brian Moore turns from acting to directing in the Curtain Club's next production, *All In Good Time*, which will run Jan. 28 to Feb. 12.

Two cantatas York concert

RICHMOND HILL — The York Philharmonic Choir and York Philharmonic Orchestra, will get together for a



Edward Luka
... on the stand

special Christmas program, Dec. 10 at St. Gabriel's Church, Willowdale, and Dec. 11 at Trinity United Church, Newmarket.

Edward Luka will conduct the concert, which will feature a Carol Cantata by David Ouchterlony, plus a Christmas Cantata by Geoffrey Bush.

Dr. Ouchterlony, principal of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, will be on hand to introduce his cantata, which features great Christmas carols from different countries.

The second work, by English composer Bush, features music of a lively nature that should appeal to all.

For tickets, call 297-1577, or 884-4532.



Yonge St. & Elgin Mills
Richmond Hill 884-9171



NEXT WEEK
MYLES (FORMERLY MYLES & LENNY)

Calendar

Rape of the Belt — Sparking comedy from the Curtain Club; to Dec. 11. Call 884-2638.
York Symphony Orchestra — Trinity United Church, Newmarket; Dec. 3. Call 884-9242.
A Man for All Seasons — Factory Theatre, Aurora; Dec. 2-4, 9-11, 8:15 p.m. Call 727-6086.
Ah, Wilderness — Unionville Arts Foundation; Fairview Mall Library Theatre, Aurora; Dec. 1-11, 8 p.m. Call 362-5960.
Olga Nickle and Elena Jasechko — Joint exhibition of paintings, drawings, sculptures and photographs, Richmond Hill Library; Dec. 9 to end of January.
The Comedians — St. Lawrence Centre,

with R.H. Thomson of Richmond Hill; 366-4734.
Old King Cole — Pepi Puppet Theatre; to Dec. 19, Poor Alex, weekends. Call 225-9473.
Last of the Red Hot Lovers — Dec. 2-4, 9-11, 8:30 p.m. Yorkwoods Library Theatre. Call 225-6954.
Medley of Art — Gibson House Gallery, 5172 Yonge St., Willowdale, 10 Canadian artists show their works; Dec. 5-Jan. 2.
Mother Necessity Jazz Workshop — 14 Queen St. E., Toronto; Dec. 2-4.
Herongate Barn Theatre — Cabaret, Sing-A-Long; Dec. 3,4,10,11. Call 294-0426.
The Festival Singers of Canada — Christmas Concert, Metropolitan United Church, Toronto; Dec. 3-4, 8:30 p.m.

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