

004-1979  
Richard K. Taylor  
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For Immediate release  
note attached backgrounder on  
all participants

COVERAGE INVITED

Exceptional films, poetry reading, water ballet  
among 21 attractions at WLU's festival beginning Jan. 29

Everything from poetry to water ballet and exceptional films to a one-person play will highlight the festival of the visual and performing arts at Wilfrid Laurier University, Jan. 29 through Feb. 2. In all there are 21 events.

A feature of the festival will be a performance of electronic music on the Sal-Mar Construction, an immensely complex one-of-a-kind electronic instrument operated from a touch-control keyboard with 291 switches. It will be played by Salvatore Martirano, who is both a professor of music and a jazz pianist.

Colin McKay of WLU, one of the planners of the week-long event, said the variety of arts represented in the program was selected "to express our life and times, as well as our heritage--a celebration of what we are as people."

Because of the variety of events planned, Mr. McKay said there should be something of interest to all in the community. Since the festival is presented as "a gift to the community" there will be no charge for any events.

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The program is a presentation of the WLU cultural affairs committee, headed by Boyd McDonald. Chairman for this year's festival is Barry Gough assisted by John Horwitz.

A run-down of the events scheduled:

On Jan. 29 Mark Prent, a Montreal sculptor will present an illustrated lecture on the social aspects of his work at noon on the dining hall mezzanine. He will repeat the lecture the next day at the same time.

A poetry reading by three outstanding Canadian poets--Joe Rosenblatt, Susan Musgrave and John Newlove, will be held at 8 p.m. on the mezzanine. A reception for the artists and the audience will follow.

On Jan. 30 Salvatore Martirano, a widely respected composer and professor of music at the University of Illinois, will give a performance on the Sal-Mar Construction at 8 p.m. in the Theatre-Auditorium. A reception will follow the performance.

The WLU chapel choir will present works of Barrie Cabena, Derek Healey and John Overduin in the Keffer Chapel of the Waterloo Lutheran Seminary at 12:30 p.m., Jan. 31.

Vancouver pianist Jackie Parker, the 19-year-old winner of the 1978 Egge piano competition, will give a program Jan. 31 at 2:30 p.m. in the Theatre-Auditorium. It will feature works by Beethoven, Bartok, Stravinsky and Boyd McDonald.

At 8 p.m. that night "an evening of exceptional films" will be shown in Room 1E1 of the arts building. To be shown are Aquirre, the Wrath of God; and three award-winning animated films: The Owl who Married the Goose, the Divided Man, Opera Cordis and the Machine.

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On Feb. 1 Christopher Butterfield, a young composer and extraordinary elocutionist, now living in Montreal, will present a performance of sound poetry, using phonics instead of words, at 10 a.m. on the dining hall mezzanine.

A concert featuring performances by the WLU music faculty will follow at 12:30 p.m. in the theatre-auditorium.

A film of the Olympic games in Montreal, featuring some of the great events in award-winning cinematography will be shown at 2:30 p.m. in the lecture hall of the athletic complex.

An hour later, the staff and dancers of Le Groupe de la Place Royale will lecture and present a repertoire discussion. It will be followed, at 4:30 p.m. by a water ballet in the Olympic pool by the WLU synchronized swim team to special music tapes made by the WLU music faculty.

At 8 p.m. that night Le Groupe de la Place Royale will present a performance, Space and Imagery in Movement, in the gymnasium of the athletic complex. A reception will follow.

Prof. Frederick Turner, poet, novelist and literary critic, will give a poetry reading at 10 a.m. in the mezzanine of the dining hall on Feb. 2. About an hour later he will take part in a panel discussion on ritual and literary imagination with Prof. Ronald Grimes and Prof. Harriet Lyons of the WLU faculty.

The Laurier Singers, led by Victor Martens, will present a varied program of matrigals and motets at 12:30 p.m. that day in the Concourse of the central teaching building. A student recital by WLU music students will follow at 2:30 p.m. in the theatre-auditorium.

At night there will be two major events. There will be a performance by the distinguished British pianist, Kendall Taylor at 8 p.m. in the theatre-auditorium.

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At 8:30 p.m., *The Jewish wife*, a play by Bertold Brecht for one performer will be presented. Acting the role will be Dierdre Murphy, a former member of the Actors Lab Ensemble of Hamilton. A reception concludes the day.

Throughout the festival there will be a photographic exhibit in the Concourse Art Gallery in the central teaching building. Titled *a View of Two Cities*, it compares Vienna and New York in works by John Durst and Wilhelm Nassau of the WLU audio-visual department

WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL OF THE VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Jan. 29 through Feb. 2

BACKGROUND SHEET ON ALL PARTICIPANTS

Mark Prent, Sculptor

This renowned Canadian sculptor is a resident of Montreal and a graduate of Sir George Williams University. He has had one-man exhibitions in Canada, the United States, West Germany and Holland. His works are in several public collections, including the Art Gallery of Ontario and he has won nine awards for his work. He has also made a film: If Brains Were Dynamite You Wouldn't Have Enough to Blow Your Nose

Poetry Readings:

Joe Rosenblatt

Born in Toronto, Rosenblatt teaches creative writing at the Three Schools of Art and is editor of Dialog. He has written six books of poems, including Dream Craters, Virgins and Vampires and Top Soil, and Bumblebee Dithyramb. Of this last book Northrop Frye wrote, "Nobody seems to get any fun out of poetry anymore. Bumblebee Dithyramb is an exhilarating exception."

Susan Musgrave

"She might be the next clearly major poet of English Canada," Doug Fetherling of Saturday Night said of Susan Musgrave, the young British Columbia poet whose work has been published in magazine and anthologies in Canada, the United States, England and France. She was raised on Vancouver Island and has lived in Ireland, England and the Queen Charlotte Islands and now lives near Sidney, B.C. Her latest books are The Impstone, Gullband, and Grave-Dirt and Selected Strawberries.

John Newlove

Considered one of Canada's top 10 poets, John Newlove has worked at various occupations, including laboring and editor at one of Canada's most prestigious publishing firms. He has won critical acclaim from reviewers across Canada for his work.

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Music:

Salvatore Martirano

Martirano is a widely respected composer and a professor of music at the University of Illinois. The Sal-Mar construction is immensely complex, a one-of-a-kind electronic instrument operated from a touch control keyboard with 291 switches. Martirano, who also is a jazz pianist, has won the prestigious Fullbright and Guggenheim Fellowships.

WLU Chapel Choir

This small choir performs regularly for services in the Keffer Chapel at the affiliated theological school, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. Its conductor is Prof. Barrie Cabena of the WLU music faculty.

Jackie Parker

Jackie Parker, 19, is a Vancouver pianist and winner of the 1978 Egge piano competition. He began the study of the piano at age four and has won seven silver medals from the Royal Conservatory of Toronto. He completed his ARCM performer's degree at age 15 and won the Gold Medal for Canada

Exceptional Films (next five items)

Aguirre, the Wrath of God is a 95 minute German film (English subtitles) by Werner Herzog, based on the exploits of a Spanish conquistador who called himself the wrath of God. It is described as an historical dramatization of ambition and metaphysical and social displacement.

The Owl who Married a Goose is a short film<sup>p</sup> produced by the National Film Board and the department of Indian and northern affairs. The story with its plot of an owl who fell in love with a goose is told in the Eskimo language but its animated pictures tell-what transpires in this story based on an Eskimo legend.

The Divided Man is a provocative telling of a complex dilemma in a simple, graphic manner. A solitary figure travels a road with a fork and must decide which way to go.

Opera Cordis, a Yugoslav film, tells its story to the rhythm of a musical heartbeat. A man opens the heart of a woman who is asleep beside him. He finds another man inside and a struggle follows with amusing consequences for the winner. The colorful and lively animation makes this a triumph<sup>ph</sup> of the Zagreb style.

The Machine is described as a wordless, chilling and deftly animated allegory on man and his inventions, by Wolfgang Urichs and a team of top West German animators. It has won several awards, including the Catholic Film Award.

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### Christopher Butterfield

Christopher Butterfield is a young composer now living in Montreal. After becoming fascinated with sound poetry, Butterfield acquired an extraordinary skill as an elocutionist. He will present a program of phonic poems of his own, in addition to the work of Dada poets.

### Faculty of Music Concert

Featured will be works of Michael Purves-Smith, Barrie Cabena and Owen Underhill, all members of the WLU faculty of music, featuring Carol Arnason, piano; Peggie Sampson, viola da gamba; and the Laurier Singers, directed by Victor Martens.

### Le Groupe de la Place Royale

A dynamic approach to creativity and a desire to break the boundaries between the arts led Jeanne Renaud and Peter Boneham to found Le Groupe de la Place Royale in 1966. Since then the character of this dance company has arisen from its collaboration with many artists from different fields. Le Groupe now consists of a company of seven dancers trained in both modern and classical styles, and an associated school where the special quality of the school is passed to students. It often performs workshops in universities around the country, often with participation from the audience.

### Water Ballet

The WLU Synchronized Swim Team was organized a year ago, drawing upon WLU students and is coached by Christine Haufe. They will perform an interesting water "ballet" to the music of tapes especially prepared for them by the WLU music faculty.

### Frederick Turner

Frederick Turner is a poet, novelist and literary critic. He was born in Britain in 1943 and was educated at Oxford University. Since 1972 he has taught at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. He has written a volume of poetry, *Between Two Lives*, a volume of literary criticism, and, for a change of pace, a science-fiction novel, *A Double Shadow*. He is looking for contributors to the Kenyon Review, the distinguished literary journal he edits.

### Laurier Singers

This senior choir of music students drawn mainly from students in the bachelor's program in WLU's music faculty is directed by Prof. Victor Martens.

### Kendall Taylor

Taylor ranks among the great pianists that Britain has produced in the last three or four decades. His services as a recitalist are in demand throughout Europe and he is widely known for his radio performances-- particularly for his regular appearances at the British Broadcasting Commission's Royal Albert Hall promenade concerts. The (Manchester) Guardian called him one of the most "brilliant" pianists now performing.

### WLU Faculty of Music Students

Students of the WLU faculty of music will play their own compositions, including works for two pianos, woodwind quintet, choir numbers and electronic compositions.

### Dierdre Murphy

Ms. Murphy was for two years a member of the Actors' Lab Ensemble of Hamilton, performing in such productions as Blood Letting, Prometheus Unchained and the Jewish wife, as well as teaching workshops in effective movement. Presently she teaches a course called The Body: my friend, my enemy, for the Conestoga College's women's studies program. She is also a student of Religion and Culture at WLU. For this festival, she performs a work by Bertold Brecht for one actress. In it, she carries on a monologue, which is actually half of an implied dialogue. The play concerns the crossing of thresholds. As in a honeymoon, the wife is carried across a threshold but from the inside instead of the outside, and something greater than her husband is carrying her.

### Display in Concourse Gallery

Throughout the Festival there will be a display in the Concourse Gallery--a photographic exhibit, "A View of Two Cities," produced by John Durst and Wilhelm Nassau of WLU's audio-visual department. The show is a photographic comparison of Venice and New York. In addition, there will be a group of recent acrylics by Michal Manson of the WLU fine arts faculty.