

016-1983
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EDITORS: Coverage of all Festival
events is welcomed.

Theatre and performance in spotlight
at Laurier's Festival of the Arts

The Canadian premiere of *The Pilgrim's Progress* will be a highlight of Wilfrid Laurier University's Festival of Theatre and Performance to be held March 3 to 12.

A religious drama, *The Gospel According to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John and Norman*, produced by Norman Dietz, gets the festival off with a performance March 3 at 8 p.m. in the main auditorium of the Frank C. Peters Building.

Then, on March 4, there will be a panel discussion of Ralph Vaughan William's opera *The Pilgrim's Progress* at 2:30 p.m. in the Paul Martin Centre, followed by a presentation of the work at 8 p.m. in the university's Theatre Auditorium on University Ave. The opera will be repeated March 5 at the same time and place.

Presented fully-staged by the Laurier opera workshop, accompanied by the WLU Orchestra, the work is produced by Prof. David Falk of the music faculty. It is staged by Thomas Schweitzer with musical direction by William Shookhoff.

The opera will be the only event during the 10-day festival for which admission will be charged. Voluntary contributions at other performances will be accepted to aid with expenses.

Also offered March 4 and 5 at 8 p.m. in Room 1E1, Arts and Science Building, will be Laurier professor Gary Waller's production of Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*. It is described as "a contemporary adaptation of a disturbingly relevant play."

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On a more popular level there will be a Children's Theatre production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, March 6 at 2 p.m. in the Theatre Auditorium, produced by the Erewhon Theatre of Toronto.

That evening Nancy Cole will perform as Gertrude Stein in a one-person show fresh from a successful presentation in Paris and at the Edinburgh Festival. It is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. in the Paul Martin Centre.

Basia Irland of the Fine Arts Department of the University of Waterloo will speak on Performance Art at 11:30 a.m. in Room 5-307 of the Central Teaching Building. There will be an official opening of works by Ms. Irland in the Concourse Gallery at 7:30 p.m., followed by a demonstration by the artist.

Also on March 7 there will be a panel discussion of Theatre in the 80s at 3 p.m. in Room 101 of the Waterloo Lutheran Seminary. Taking part will be Erika Ritter, playwright, Rota Lister, Canadian drama critic and scholar, Richard Nieoczym of Toronto's Actor's Lab, and Helene Carty, an expert on French-Canadian theatre.

That evening, at 8 p.m., in the Paul Martin Centre, Nancy Cole will be on deck again, this time as John Lennon, which she had done to great applause in Paris and Edinburgh.

Film and theatre are in the spotlight March 8. At 2 p.m. in Room 4-201 of the Central Teaching Building the film Altar of Fire will be shown, followed by a discussion with faculty panellists. The film is a controversial work by Richard Schechner on the relationship between theatre and ritual.

Participatory theatre is scheduled for 8 p.m. in Alumni Hall with demonstration by Ross Kidd of the use of theatre as a teaching device and as a forum for social problems in a Third world setting. Mr. Kidd, a dynamic speaker, has had extensive experience of this theatre form in Botswana.

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Toronto's Actor's Lab will hold a workshop on theatre on March 9 at 10 a.m. in the Paul Martin Centre with Richard Nieoczym in charge. At 2:30 p.m. a theatre presentation, Passages, a one-person show exploring women in the modern world, will be held in the Turret lounge of the Student Union Building. There will be a post-performance discussion.

At 7:30 p.m. that same evening Pauline Carey will appear as Anna Jameson, Canadian diarist, in a performance sponsored by the Ontario Arts Council.

On March 10 at 2 p.m. the Louis Malle film, My Dinner with Andre, will be shown in Room 4-201 of the Central Teaching Building with discussion to follow.

Actor's Lab will perform The Pact at 7:30 p.m. in the Paul Martin Centre. The Pact is a dramatic exploration of modern man's loss of soul as inspired by Rimbaud, Dostoevsky and T.S. Eliot.

Another film The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant will be shown March 11 at 2:30 p.m. in the main auditorium of the Frank C. Peters Building. A discussion with faculty panellists will follow.

Actor's Lab will perform Shakespeare's Richard III, an experimental adaptation directed by Richard Nieoczym at 8 p.m. in the Theatre Auditorium that night.

The next night, March 12, the festival winds up with Yass Hakoshima performing Japanese mime in the Theatre Auditorium at 8 p.m.

The festival is dedicated this year to the memory of Prof. James McNab Clark, a beloved faculty of English member, who died in December. Festival sponsors are the university's cultural affairs committee, the music faculty and the Ontario Arts Council.