

'Canadians close-minded'

LONDON (CP) — Vancouver-born artist Joy Caros says Canadians are close-minded about art and refuse to recognize her artistic achievement.

During a joint exhibition with husband and fellow artist James Rawlings at Hamilton's Art Gallery, Caros said her work, although widely accepted in Europe, has won little praise in her native land.

"Unless you're painting something Canadian the country won't look at you as a Canadian artist," asserted Caros.

Caros says she is the only contemporary artist in Europe who has "perfected the technique of painting oil on velvet" although there are examples at the Louvre and the Vatican of earlier works in this medium.

"I started painting with oil on velvet 20 years ago because of the challenge. It's difficult and demands patience. There's simply no room for error."

Her subjects are people — nudes, faces and aesthetic figures representing human drama against a black-velvet background.

"I try to convey emotion, feeling and tragedy through the human figure. We are life. Why should I return to Canada and paint landscapes?"

Caros began sculpting and painting more than 20 years ago, earning recognition throughout Canada.

After a solo show in Toronto in 1963, Hollywood producer Stanley Kramer invited her to paint the portraits of the 13 characters in his film *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World*.

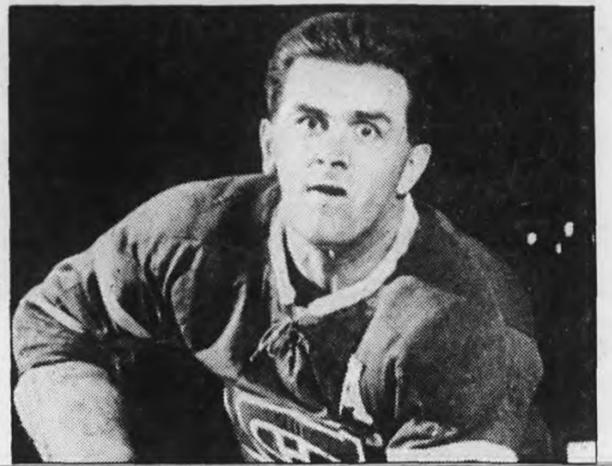
The London exhibition, the first for Caros since her London Hilton exhibit in 1968, is Rawlings' London debut. He began painting in 1976.

Now living in Astaad, Switzerland, Caros and Rawlings are planning to return to Canada for a private exhibition in Toronto in May of 1980.

Rocket shoots at TV

Plans are being formalized to film a special television series on the life of Montreal Canadiens' hockey star Maurice "Rocket" Richard. It would be along the lines of the highly successful *Duplessis* about the life of the late Quebec premier.

Being considered for the lead role is Jean Lapointe, who played *Duplessis*. This would testify to the great versatility of Lapointe (a former member of *Les Jerolans* with Jerome Lemay). He has spent the last few years making a name for himself as the star of a stage show, playing upon his talents as a singer, comedian and mimic.



Pierre Bernier, 22, does part-time work as a mime and is starting to make a name for himself in Quebec City. He just made his annual appearance at the Institut Canadien. He has been a mime for five years, performing for children in schools, hospitals and parks.

In his Institut Canadien show, he did 30 different numbers during a show of a little more than an hour and a half. Bernier says he became a mime after he noticed that people laughed at his appearance rather than at what he was saying.

Bruce Cockburn is coming back to Quebec in November for a tour of eight cities, including an appearance at Montreal's Place des Arts on Nov. 5. The Ottawa native is popular with Quebecers and sings in both French English, as well as showing his expertise on the guitar.

Guy L'Ecuyer has spent 30 years on the stage as an actor. Recently recovered from a serious illness, he is 072 appearing in the play *Les Emigres*, which has just terminated a run at the National Arts Centre and moved to Montreal's Cafe de la Place des Arts.

Since the start of his career in 1949, he has never spent a year without going on the stage. Although he has appeared on television frequently, he says he prefers the cinema and stage.

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Bruce Cockburn is coming back to Quebec in November for a tour of

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