

Other noted people were Wulf Herzogenrath, head of the Kunstverein in Cologne and noted expert in video and performance in Europe; Germano Celant, Italian art critic; Donald Kuspit, New York art critic; Maurizio Nannucci, co-curator of Zona Galllery in Florence, as well as visual artist; Christos Joachimides, curator from Berlin, who directed Zeitgeist; Gijs Van Tuyl, Visual Arts Office for Abroad in the Netherlands and many more.

Problems of the avant-garde (is there one or not?), regional culture versus nationalism, the isolation of the artist in contrast with the exchange of languages and ensemble creativity, national identity and national style vs. transnationalism and an international identity, the moral responsibility of the artist versus consumerism of art were all broached and discussed, but it was A.A. Bronson who put it so aptly saying that one has to think internationally, that national boundaries don't have much bearing on the art community which is so small that one can make one's art the best he or she can and that becomes the best expression you can say about yourself.

The staff of five full-time people at Visual Arts Ontario, blending with some part-time people and several volunteers, made this conference one of the most successfully run I have ever attended—except for my own, of course. The orchestration of all the facets into a whole are to be commended with accolades to Bill Boyle, director of Visual Arts Ontario and Hennie L. Wolff, Conference Coordinator. A new publication came out of the Conference, published even before the conferees arrived, called **International Resources for Canadian Artists** by Alan Bakes, which includes a list of world museums, public galleries and alternate spaces; international exhibitions; art schools and workshops; international grants, scholarships, fellowships and internships; international resources; external affairs; international art magazines and periodicals, and a bibliography.

Ironically enough, the United States State Department has historically failed to see the opportunity and the strength that the arts and education provide for improving out image with other countries, particularly the underdeveloped ones. In turn, the USIA has been culturally heavy-handed and financially undernourished. In turn, the National Endowment for the Arts has an International Program which has a budget of only \$50,000, down from last year's \$121,000, but, ladies and gentlemen, President Reagan's budget calls for \$102 million for military bands—an increase of \$3 million over last year and \$9 million more than the year before. Yes, "The world was all before them, where to choose. . . ."

HAVE A HAPPY SUMMER!

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

A legal battle has broken out in Belgium over a book charging that Rene Magritte, one of the century's great surrealist painters, was also an art forger of the first magnitude. The book, *Memory's Raft* by Marcel Marien, charges that Magritte faked pictures by Picasso and fellow surrealists Max Ernst, Salvador Dali and Giorgio di Chirico during World War II because he needed money. Magritte's widow charges that the book is libelous and says her husband was "the most honest of men." The issue is now in court, where she is seeking to have sales of the book halted.

- A Chinese artist in Peking, reviewing China's first Picasso exhibit, said that the "creative spirit" in the artist is "highly commendable, but certain of his works, while not lacking interest, suffer from being weird." The exhibit closes in Peking and then moves to Shanghai.
- An independent postgraduate school of designers and architects will open in Milan next fall, according to members of a prominent Italian design group. Limited to 50 students with design degrees, the school, called **Domus Academy**, is being financed largely by countries in the European Economic Community. They will pay tuition for 40 students from community nations; students from outside the community will occupy the other 10 places, at their own expense. The school's director will be Maria Grazia Mazzocchi. The school has an informal tie with its namesake, *Domus*, the Italian architecture and design magazine.
- Organized and curated by Walter Storms, 8 painters from Prague have come to Munich at the Kunstlerwerkstatten, Lothringer Strasse 13 from 28 May through 26 June. Included are Bostik, Boudnik, Demartini, Grygar, Jetelova, Kolibal, Malich and Simotova. There is a catalog for 15 DM.
- David Hockney was awarded the 1983 Shakespeare Prize for his services to painting and the arts. The prize is worth DM 25,000 in cash and a scholarship of DM 9,000 for a year's study in the Federal Republic of Germany.
- McDonald's of fast food fame are decorating their 100 stores in England with etchings and contemporary prints with the cash outlay per store of £500 to £600. No extreme abstract works are included, and in some places they have commissioned local artwork.
- *The Blue Guide Museums and Galleries of London* has just been published by W.W. Norton & Co. for \$12.95 in the US and it seems to be the best insider's view of the museum world in London by Malcolm Rogers, curator of the 17th-century paintings at the National Portrait Gallery.
- *Robert Delaunay*, a major exhibition, is being shown at the Galerie Gmurzynska in Cologne, through 30 July 1983. There is a bilingual catalog (German/French) with about 30 reproductions in color and 100 illustrations in black and white (most previously unpublished documentary photos) available for 50DM from Galerie Gmurzynska, 5 Cologne 1, Obenmarspforten 21, West Germany.
- The Victoria & Albert Museum's first extension in over 70 years, the Henry Cole Wing, opened to the public on 23 March. Immediately next to the museum, the new wing

contains, on five floors, the most inclusive selection of over a million works in the collections of the V & A's Department of Prints, Drawings and Photographs, and paintings including those of John Constable, selections from the national collection of British watercolors and portrait miniatures, the 1824 Panorama of Rome by Caracciolo, which is the only large-scale panorama, 44 feet in length, on show in Britain--and this for the first time.

The V & A's Dress Collection opens on 8 June with an entirely new display in terms of fabric, cut and style, a new seriousness of approach to clothes. There is also room for small temporary exhibitions, and the first is the "little black dress". There are over 200 figures from early 17th century to the present.

- Tom Phillips' latest "livre de peintre" is *Dante's Divine Comedy*, which has 139 images running parallel to the text. Published by Talfourd Press (in association with Waddington Graphics), this enormous adventure includes the artist's concern for the images, the pages, the print and the binding. venture, according to Phillips, includes "the range of imagery which encompasses everything from Greek mythology to the Berlin Wall, from scriptural reference to a scene in an abattoir and from alchemical signs to lavatory graffiti. Similarly the range of expression includes early calligraphy, collage, golden-section drawings, maps, diagrams, doctored photographs, quotations from earlier works of art and specially programmed computer graphics."

- Michael Gibbs, editor of *Artzien* in Amsterdam, is also a visual artist and has an installation at Ruimte Morguen in Antwerp and in May participated in a performance festival of Benelux visual poets in Milan.

- *bologna incontri* for March 1983 had its whole issue devoted to the Electronic Image, including cinema, TV, video games, video art, computer music, micro-electronics, etc.

- From 14 May - 19 June, CAIRN, 151 rue du Faubourg Saint Antoine, 75011 Paris, has programmed a series of discussions, video installations, and video programs including a Round Table discussion by artists and journalists on the Place which Alternative and Art Video should occupy in the future networks of distribution; work by Robic, Denise Hammond (Canada), Jacques Sirot, Jose Aragao, Arturo Barrio, Pierre Fourny, Niels Lomholt, Sally Norman, Bernard Crespin, Gwylene Gallimard, Peter Savage and more.

- Centrum 'T Hoogt has celebrated its 10th year presenting music, video, film, performance, exhibitions, and running a cafe. This lively place is in Utrecht, The Netherlands.

- Madrid's Prado Museum is featuring 52 works never previously shown to the public by Francisco de Goya. The show runs through June.

More than 400 sketches and paintings by Salvador Dali will be shown through 30 July at the Pedrables Palace in Barcelona, after having been shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Madrid. The show is dedicated to Gala, his wife, who died last year.

- The Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam is showing through 3 July the work of Roland Topor, photoworks of Joel Peter Witkin, and the North Atlantic Light 1960-1983 of

Willem de Kooning, including paintings, drawings and sculptures.

- The Tate Gallery on the Thames in London is going to have a new extension, called the Clore Gallery, which will house the Tate's collection of J.M. Turner paintings. The architect is James Stirling, who has designed the building in such a way that each facade is treated in a different way.

- The United Nations in New York has tripled the size of its permanent collection of art since it established its international complex on the East River in New York, more than 30 years ago. Everything from giant murals, tapestries and rugs, sculpture by Henry Moore, a stained-glass panel by Chagall, a sculpture by Barbara Hepworth, but original paintings are a rarity except for a Rouault from the Vatican and a Tamayo from Mexico.

- Jack Lang, the French Culture Minister, hired Jean Maheu to be the new president of the Pompidou Center, the cultural center that attracts 26,000 visitors a day, has an annual budget of \$57 million, including a Center of Industrial Creation, a public library, Pierre Boulez's IRCAM, and the national modern art museum. Maheu is basically the manager for the Center.

- Polish authorities suspended the artists' union, one of the few cultural institutions still functioning with its leadership unchanged since martial law. The suspension of ZPAP, reported by the official press, was ordered after it refused to retract eight communiques released in the last year which authorities found politically offensive.

- Merlina Mercouri, Culture Minister of Greece, inspected the Elgin Marbles at the British Museum recently and made an emotional appeal for their return to Greece. British Arts Minister Paul Channon said Tuesday that returning the Marbles to Greece would be a disaster for the British Museum, which bought them in 1816.

Then the director of the British Museum, David Wilson, told Merlina Mercouri that he is against returning the Elgin Marbles to Athens because that would ruin Britain's collection of classical sculpture. "You get your marbles back, then others will want their marbles back," said he to Mercouri at a joint news conference. He also said more people could see the sculptures in London than in Athens. We're asking just who is losing his marbles?

- Praxis, an artist-run space in Fremantle, Western Australia, sponsored an exhibition in May called *The Presence*. The exhibition invited comments from the art community about the military presence of the U.S. in Western Australia. Artists and anyone else were invited to submit visual comment in April for exhibition in May.

- ANZART, held in Hobart, Tasmania from 19 May through 12 June, is an event giving a chance for artists from Australia and New Zealand to meet and have an opportunity for artists to gain some exposure outside their own milieu.

- Canadian artists put on *Eventworks*, a month's performance, film, video, music and fashion exhibition of their art in Boston, sponsored by the Canadian Consulate, ICA, and seen at the Massachusetts College of Art, ICA, the MIT pool and produced by the Studio for Interrelated Media.