

In Memory of Milton Acorn

Milton Acorn, well-known Island writer and poet, died of a heart attack on August 20th, in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Charlottetown. Acorn was born in Charlottetown in 1923 and had his first works published in 1952 in **New Frontiers**. His first collection of verse entitled "In Love and Anger" was issued in Montreal in 1956. Acorn was a member of the League of Canadian Poets, and co-founder of Georgia Strait, a West Coast free press that rose to a circulation of 60,000 in six months. The brightest moment in Acorn's career came when he was honored by his fellow poets with the special title of the People's Poet. He was awarded the recognition at a favorite haunt of his, Grossman's Tavern in Toronto. The award touched him deeply and he wore his special medallion for years. Acorn also received the Governor General's award for

poetry in 1975.

The most recent collection of Acorn's work, which some critics believe to be his best, was published in 1983 and is entitled "Dig Up My Heart!". The collected thoughts and papers of Acorn were purchased by the National Archives of Canada in 1985. In commenting on Acorn's death, Mr. Clemens, the Minister of Community and Cultural Affairs, stated, "The Arts community was shocked and deeply saddened. There is a sense of loss, not only for the great writer and poet that he was, but also for the passing for a defiant, passionate spirit who took us to the ed of agony, beauty, and revelation in his writing." Milton Acorn has left a cultural treasure as his legacy and will be remembered as one of Canada's most brilliant artists.

(Supplied by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.)



OFFICE HOURS

The hours for the editor of the Gem will be:
At the Main Building 4th floor office:

Monday: 10:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Tuesday: 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM

in the Robertson Library student lounge:

Friday: 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM

If the editor is not in the office, submissions or messages may be left by placing through the slot in the office door.

Submissions for the Gem

should be made no later than 1 PM Monday on the week the submission is to be published. Submissions should be typed and double spaced. Early submissions are much appreciated.

Views expressed in the Gem are not necessarily those of the editor, the Gem, or the UPEI Student Union. The Gem is an equal opportunity newspaper.

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