

Summer school at Centre

Confederation Centre is a college later this month as the Atlantic Summer School of the Arts goes into operation.

New to the school this year is a course in creative writing by Dr. Earle Birney, the author of "Turvey" and considered by many to be Canada's finest poet; ballet classes by Sandra Laine of the Centre's ballet school; a course in design by Aristides Gazetas, who this season taught stage design at the National Theatre School, and courses in music education held in conjunction with Mount Allison University in Sackville.

The theatre course program is also expanded this year, with courses given in movement, production, speech, acting, directing, history of theatre, secondary school theatre and creative children's dramas. The staff is headed by Ronald Irving, director of dramatic arts for P.E.I., and includes Fred Euringer, head of the Queens University drama department; Aristides Gazetas, who is doing the lighting for all three summer festival productions; and Susan Kramer, a creative dramatics specialist from Edmonton.

Students enrolling in any of the courses will be using the theatre as a workshop, probably viewing festival productions from backstage and having guest lecturers from the festival company.

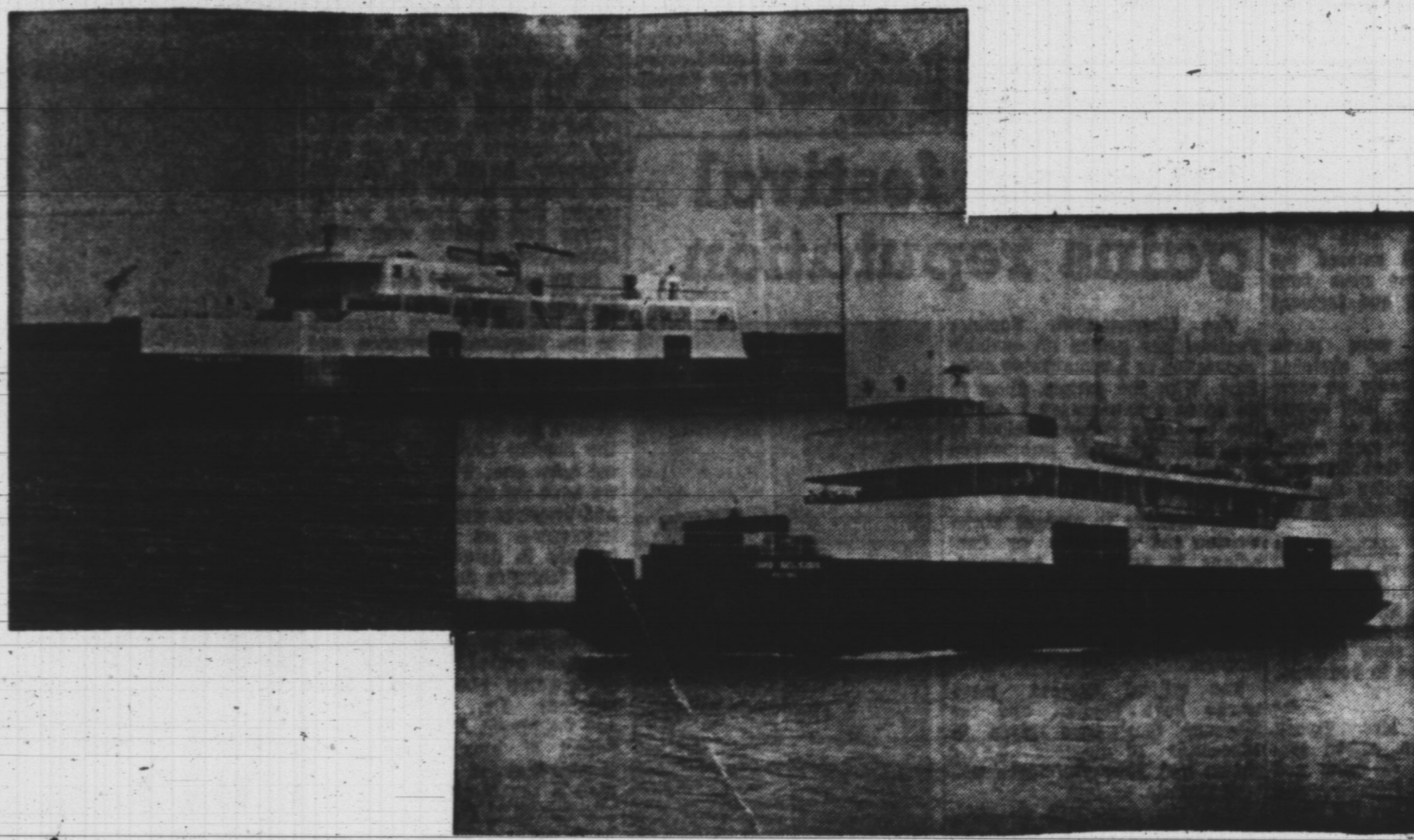
The music education classes will be taught by S.N. Leppard of Coynwall, Ont.; E. Liedtke, Brampton, Ont.; and Sister Mary Winnifred of Charlottetown. A course for church organists and choir directors is being conducted by Charlottetown organist George Thompson and Christopher Gledhill.

Courses in theatre arts are accredited by Prince of Wales College. A three-year summer school program in theatre education culminates in a Theatre Arts Specialist License from the P.E.I. Department of Education.

All the courses start July 11 and continue to a variety of dates in August, with theatre arts the longest.

"BOOZE" LASTS
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CATHERINE MCKINNON Catherine McKinnon to open cabaret club

One of Canada's most popular young singers, Catherine McKinnon has been booked to open the Charlottetown Summer Festival's newest feature, the Festival Cabaret Club.

Backed by a folk-rock group led by her accompanist Brian Ahearn, (they call themselves "The Badd Cedes") Miss McKinnon will sing July 7, 8, and 9 as featured artist. The group will also play for dancing.

The young vocalist's meteoric rise in Canadian showbusiness has established her as one of the brightest young stars in Canada. A regular on the Don Messer Show, and featured vocalist on the perennial summertime Halifax television production "Sing-along Jubilee", her clear soprano voice and folk song interpretations have won her an international reputation.

Several times during the past year she has made trips to England to cut records and appear on British radio and television, and her "Voice of an Angel" album has been a best seller on the Canadian market.

Following her Cabaret Club engagement, Catherine will make several appearances at the Summerside Lobster Carnival and at the Bay Vista resort motel.

Souvenir booklet

This season, for the first time the Festival publicity department has put together a souvenir booklet for sale in the theatre lobby.

The book, printed in Toronto through the generosity of Tothman's of Pall Mall, contains information on Confederation Centre and the Festival productions, and photos and biographies of the entire company of over 40 professional performers.

The smiling father, symbol of the 1966 Festival, graces the cover.

Sunday concerts feature works of the old masters

Mozart's "Overture to Marriage of Figaro" and Haydn's "Symphony No. 88" will highlight the inaugural concert of the Atlantic Orchestra July 17, conductor John Fenwick has announced.

On July 31 the orchestra presents a salute to French Canada, including works by Quebec composers, to open the Summer Festival's "French Canada Week".

Randell's "Water Music" and Stravinsky's suite from the ballet "Pulchella" are scheduled for the third concert, Aug. 7. Harpist Phyllis Ensher of Halifax will be guest soloist for the Aug. 14 concert, and the final concert, Aug. 28, will include Beethoven's Eighth Symphony (Program for the Aug. 21 concert is not yet finalized).

A highlight of all the orchestra concerts will be a short specially commissioned work by a young Canadian composer. Contributing artists are: Norma Beecroft, Ann Egglestone, John Fenwick, Scul Irving Glick, Andre Prevost and Murray Schaffer.

PLAY THE PIT
The Atlantic Orchestra, which will play the pit for the Festival's two musicals, "Anne of Green Gables" and "The Adventures of Private Turvey" as well as the Sunday night concert series, has been formed especially for the Festival. Seventeen of the musicians are members of the Halifax Symphony; the rest are drawn mainly from Toronto and New York.

Conductor John Fenwick is assistant artistic director of the Festival and is once again music director, a position he held last summer. As permanent conductor of the Halifax Symphony, Fenwick is a musical rarity—the only Canadian born and trained conductor of a major Canadian symphonic organization. During his career he has had a close association with theatre, having done musical direction at the Crest and the

Neptune, and for the revue "Spring Thaw".

Fen Watkin, assistant conductor, comes to the Festival for the first time. Trained at the Toronto Conservatory of Music, Mr. Watkin played several seasons with the Toronto Symphony. His first association with Mavor Moore was as assistant musical director for Moore's musical "Sunshine Town" in 1955.

REHEARSAL PIANIST
For the past ten years he has been rehearsal pianist for the CNE Grandstand, and has also served long periods in the same capacity for Alan and Blanche Lund and the CBC. Since 1958 he has been assistant to Howard Cable on the General Motors Industrial Show. Mr. Watkin was musical director for the 1965 western tour of "Spring Thaw", and last fall for the Toronto shows "She Loves Me" and "Mr. Serenade".

Concertmaster is New York violinist Isidor Strasser.

Other orchestra personnel are Georges Gusset, Eileen Redmond, Philip Karp, Beverley Grove, Frederick Allt, Patricia Wynne (violin); Kenneth Copeland, Lily Green, Lillian Randall (viola); Gregorie Follari, Ian Williams (cello); Charles Gezy (bass); Phyllis Ensher (harp); H. Ykelenstam, Kathryn Samuelson, (flute); Frank Peters, Frank Wellbacher (oboe); Alban Gallant, Robert Little, (clarinet); James Hansen, Thomas Grove (bassoon); Peter Samuelson, Robert McGruther (French horn); Adrian Maxwell, Jack Collins (trumpet); James A. Lee (trombone); William Gary De Leon (soprano); Edward Friedlander (percussion). (Ray Reilly replaces Friedlander in August.)

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