

Mr. E. Belton

Lakehead University

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MEMORANDUM

FROM: Mr. D. W. Morgan

Date August 30th, 1967

TO: Academic and Administrative Staff

SUBJECT: Cultural productions at Lakehead University, Fall 1967

Lakehead University has been fortunate in obtaining some outstanding cultural events for this Fall at a relatively low cost to the University due to special grants through the Centennial Commission and Festival Canada organizations. Due to the limited seating capacity of the University Centre Theatre we are going to offer tickets to these productions first to the students and academic staff of the University and if there are any tickets left over, to the public.

To give us some idea as to how many tickets we should "reserve" for the academic staff would you be good enough to complete the attached questionnaire and return it to me by Friday, September 8th at 5 p.m.

On Monday, September 25th the "Centennial Players" will present two one act plays "Les Fourberies de Scapin", a light French comedy by Moliere and "Arnold Had Two Wives" a tragi-comedy on modern academic life by Aviva Ravel, a contemporary Montreal writer. Both one act plays run one hour each and contrast in theme as well as in language. The Centennial Players are made up of 24 actors and six stage attendants, all Canadian University students. Our students will be looking after billets for them. They will have previously put on these plays at the Youth Pavilion at Expo September 11th to 14th inclusive. The Centennial Players company is sponsored by the Centennial Commission. Over 300 students were auditioned in 30 universities from coast to coast. The final auditions were made by Mr. Pierre Lefevre, Director of l'Ecole du Centre Dramatique de l'Est in Strasbourg, France, who has come to Canada to direct the company here. The student players will tour more than 20 Canadian universities beginning at the University of British Columbia, September 16th, and ending at Memorial University on October 15th. We expect to charge 75¢ for student tickets, \$1 for faculty tickets and \$1.25 to the public.

On Monday, October 9th the famous French company "Theatre du Nouveau Monde" will present Moliere's "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme". This is one of the top drama companies in Canada. The tour is sponsored by the "Festival Canada" organization, the same group who sponsored Les Feux Follets, the Armed Forces Tattoo. Our cost for this production is only \$800. If it wasn't for the Festival Canada grant it would ordinarily have cost us \$2200. The colourful and hilarious tale

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of "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme" centres around Monsieur Jourdain, the wealthy but common lout who attempts to buy the manners, the graces and the aura which he thinks will admit him to the charmed circle of the nobility. This play has lost none of its satirical bite in the period between the 17th Century when it was first produced and this outstanding production of today. Though produced entirely in French it is such a broad farce that the French language used in the play shouldn't be any barrier to enjoyment.

The TNM has been invited three times to participate in International Festivals: the Festival of Dramatic Art in Paris, France 1955, the Brussels World's Fair in 1958 and at the Commonwealth Arts Festival in London in 1965. Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme played a two week run at Expo 67. We are considering charging \$1 for students, \$1.50 for faculty and \$2 to the public for this production.

On Monday, October 30th the famous French Canadian Chanteuse Monique Leyrac will appear at the University under the sponsorship of "Festival Canada". She is at a sensational point in her singing career and has recently been highly acclaimed in France, United States, Russia, as well as in her own country, Canada. She won first prize awards in Poland, Belgium and French Canada and has made a number of recordings. Miss Leyrac is singing at just about every major university in Canada. Her usual fee is \$1500 for an evening. Our cost is \$750 due to the subsidy. We are thinking of charging \$1.25 for students, \$2.50 for faculty and \$3 to the public for this production.

On Friday, November 10th the Chantal Masson vocal group consisting of 25 singers most of whom are music students at Laval, will be at the University. The group is sponsored through the Centennial Commission. They gave four concerts at the Canadian Pavilion in late July. They are touring Laurentian University, the University of Manitoba and Toronto University in November. Our students are expected to look after billets for them. We are going to charge 75¢ for students, \$1 for faculty and \$1.25 to the public.

On Friday, November 24th, Donald Lautrec and Ginette Reno will appear at the University. They are sponsored by "Festival Canada". Due to the subsidy we are only being charged \$610 instead of their normal fee of \$1220. Donald Lautrec has recorded over 70 songs in his young career including the official Expo theme song "Hey Friend, Say Friend" which sold over 70,000 copies. He is extremely popular in his native Quebec, particularly amongst the high school and university crowd. He has appeared several times in Paris and has recently signed a four year contract with Barclay Records there. He recently appeared for a week at the "Semaine de la Chanson" at the Expo Theatre.

Ginette Reno is a glamorous young French songstress who looks a little like Sophia Loren. She sings with equal ability in both English and French, specializing in singing jazz, blues and popular songs. She began her career in 1960. Following several tours and successful appearances in cabarets, night clubs and concert halls, she was offered a recording contract with Apex Records, from which her albums to date have, overnight, established her as a star among Canadian "chanteuses". One of her records has sold over 90,000 copies. The critics in 1964 named her "the discovery of the year". We are considering

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charging \$1.25 for students, \$2 for faculty and \$2.50 to the public to see these performances.

The University's total cost for these five performances is \$2,660. If it hadn't been for the subsidies the total cost would have been close to \$8000 and we would have had to charge an average of \$4.50 per ticket or \$22.50 for all five performances. The following are the total costs of attending all five performances for students - \$5.00, for Faculty - \$8.00, for the Public - \$10.00.

DWM/jb

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