

Art books sell well and Casson's a hit

Hang the recession. There's big money being spent in Toronto on expensive art books.

Edward Borins, owner of Edwards Books And Art store on Queen St. W., so far has sold 500 copies of the \$75 A. J. Casson: His Life And Works book by Paul Duval. It has just come out. And Borins says he has 21 orders for the \$6,000 Journal Of Susannah Moodie, with text by Margaret Atwood, and 30 original works of art by Charles Pachter. It will be published in November and then will cost \$10,000. But orders have been taken for the past 18 months at the \$6,000 price.

"I've sold art books for years," Borins says, "and I've never seen anything like what's happening on the Casson book. People are coming and saying, 'Only \$75?' Some of them are buying 15 to 20 copies at a time." A limited edition, priced at \$2,700, also is doing a brisk trade. "It has already appreciated in value to \$4,000." Edwards is only one of several local stores registering such sales on these books.

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John Savage, seen in *The Deer Hunter* and a star of the musical movie of *Hair*, is the latest Hollywood recruit to Canadian films. He's set for a lead role in an unnamed \$10 million espionage thriller soon to be produced by Garth Drabinsky and partner Joel Michaels (*The Changeling*, *The Silent Partner* and *Tribute*).



Savage

It's a sellout week at O'Keefe Centre for the Acrobats of Canton. Only a few tickets remain for tonight's show. Tomorrow and Saturday are sold out. Even 74 standing room spaces have been selling out nightly. The Toronto Symphony, the show's local sponsor, will share in profits from the \$300,000 box office. As with all Chinese performers playing Toronto the last few years, the acrobats are having late lunches and after-show dinners at Sai Woo Chinese Restaurant on Dundas St. W.; in its third floor banquet hall, away from other diners. Breakfasts, Western-style, are served at their hotel, Bond Place, on Dundas St. W.

The troupe had one afternoon at the CN Tower. But because of a busy schedule and a transportation problem, another of their requests will have to wait until they play *Hamilton* next week. They wanted to see one movie, *The Empire Strikes Back*, now showing in the suburbs. But locating a special bus proved too much for their hosts. In Ottawa for Thanksgiving, they will be feted with a



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traditional turkey dinner.

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With FP News Service junked, writer Walter Stewart will be busy the next two years travelling the world to research a book on Canadian banks at home and abroad for Collins and Sons publishers. The subject has only been hinted at in other studies of the business world.

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Newcomer movie producer Rene Perlmutter has lined up strong talent for *Luv*, an anthology movie with separate stories written by Joni Mitchell, Liv Ullmann, Gael Greene, Antonia Fraser, Edna O'Brien and Nancy Dowd. Filming is to start Monday on the Dowd portion. CITY-TV chief Moses Znaimer and actress Marilyn Lightstone (in real life house mates for years) will play husband and wife in Greene's segment. Some of the other actors include Joni Mitchell (appearing in her own story), Robin Ward (host of TV's revived *To Tell The Truth*), Larry Dane, Elizabeth Shepherd (seen on CBC's *Phoenix Team*), Caudice O'Connor, Maureen Fitzgerald, Gordon Thomson, Second City's Ben Gordon, Winston



Ward

Reckert (seen in *Suzanne*), Linda Renhoffer, Nicholas Campbell, Cindy Girling, Susan Fletcher, Sonja Snits (a star of CBC's *War Brides* movie), Scott Denton, Susan Fletcher, Patrick Brymer, and Rita Tuckett (of the long-run *Mousetrap*). Beverley D'Angelo (the movie *Hair*), rumored for a lead, won't be in the cast.

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After only one season as general manager at the Shaw Festival, long-time Toronto Workshop Productions administrator June Faulkner has moved to Young People's Theatre.

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I've Got My Act Together really has it together at the Ports Dinner Theatre on Yonge St. The musical, headlining Judy Lander and Stephen Young, has been selling out nightly since opening in early July, according to co-producer Marlene Smith. It's slated to run until December. "Investors have their money back," she says, "proof that independent theatre can survive in this city."