

arts hudson

Arts Hudson is published in spring, summer, fall and winter editions by Arts Hudson, a non-profit corporation established under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act.

It is distributed by subscription (see details at right) and free of charge through outlets in Hudson, St. Lazare, Vaudreuil and eastern Ontario.

Editor - Bert Markgraf

Contributors:

Carmen Marie Fabio - Arts and Life Kathryn Lamb - Theatre James Parry - People Clint Ward - Film Society Briana Doyle - Music Steve Ambler - Chamber Music Series

Virtual Contributor:

Art Macdonald - Art's Hudson

Copyright Arts Hudson 2023

Subscribe to Arts Hudson

Subscribe to Arts Hudson to receive each issue by mail when it is published. 1 Year, 4 Issues - \$20.00

Buy a subscription on the website: https://artshudson.org

or email

subscriptions@artshudson.org

Why you should subscribe to Arts Hudson:

- 1. You can be sure of getting your issue every three months, especially if you're from outside of Hudson.
- 2. You will be supporting the Arts Hudson initiative, promoting the Hudson business and cultural community.

Contact us at:

Arts Hudson P.O Box 415 Hudson, QC JOP 1H0

artshudson.org art@artshudson.org Tel: 450-458-1319

Buy an Ad on Arts Hudson

Full Page Ad, 10" x 8" \$250.00

Full Page Ad, 10" x 8" 4 Issues \$900.00

Inside Back Cover, 10" x 8" \$300.00

Inside Back Cover, 10" x 8" 4 Issues \$1100.00

Half Page Ad, 5" x 8" \$150.00

Half Page Ad, 5" x 8" 4 Issues \$540.00

Quarter Page Ad, 2.5" x 8" \$100.00

Quarter Page Ad, 2.5" x 8" 4 Issues \$350.00

Artist's Ad, about 15 square inches. Image at the top with a few lines text and contact information underneath. Shape corresponds to the shape of the image.

\$75.00

4 Issues \$250.00

Buy ads on the website: https://artshudson.org or email ads@artshudson.org



Still Singing

Brian Gallagher's Meandering Musical Journey by Carmen Marie Fabio

In spite of, or maybe because of, a 17year absence from playing musical instruments in his youth, Brian Gallagher has been making up for lost time since rediscovering his passion for melody and

storytelling in the early 2000s.

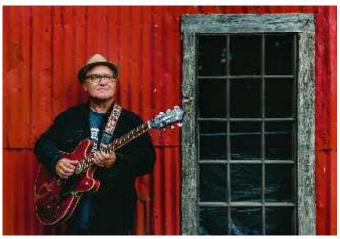
The Cape Breton resident has migratory roots in various Ontario locales before living in Hudson for a long spell and now resides in Pincourt with his Bestie' Nicole Girard, who also lends her voice to many of Gallagher's compositions.

Return to music

"Hudson is where I rekindled my musical career after playing in rock bands as a teenager," Gallagher told Arts Hud-

son in a recent interview. "I bought my house from Terry Leblanc who was a drummer and had a music room in the

(continued on page 4)



Brian Gallagher's creative style offers narratives that seamlessly intertwine his stories with music.

PHOTO STEVE GERRARD PHOTOGRAPHY

A Clean Brush

by Norm Foster

Reviewed by Kathryn Lamb

A Benefit Community Fundraiser for the Hudson Village Theatre

Directed by Steve Walters

Norm Foster has done it again with A Clean Brush. And now The Village Theatre in Hudson can boast about hosting the Canadian première of his new play.

Mello and Dick are a pair of painters (walls, not pictures) who have landed a gig painting the basement of a recently widowed client, so she can turn it into a studio apartment to rent out. They are an interesting pair. Mello is the son of hippie parents, tall, slow moving, thoughtful, compassionate and willing to believe the best of people. Dick is shorter, edgier, more practical and business minded.

They've worked together before, but

(continued on page 2)

Remembering **Bob Corriveau**

and his legacy for future generations **By James Parry**

A real 'rock star' to students at Dawson and John Abbott Colleges

For decades and to hundreds, if not thousands, of homeowners in our neck of the woods, he was known as Bob The Tree Man. A true gentleman, always ready with that infectious smile of his, a kind word, and the strength even in his 80s of a man half his age. As evidenced when, having a dying Ash taken down on our property in Hudson not too long ago, I asked him where in fact he had felled his first tree.

"In the Sahara Forest," he replied with a straight face while hefting a log the size of the Rock of Gibraltar and chucking it into his truck. "The Sahara Forest?" I asked incredulously. "Never heard of it. Just the Sahara Desert." Answered Bob with that mischeivous smile of his, "Well, it is now!" Yes, that was Bob Corriveau in fine feckle and always passionate about saving as many trees as

(Continued on page 8)

Iconic Canadians to be Celebrated at the Hudson Film Festival

by Clint Ward

April Showers perhaps, but hopefully there will be spring flowers when this year's annual, BIG little CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL opens on April 12 at the Hudson Village Theatre. Included in the 5 day event will be new documentaries about Canadian Icons.

The Hudson Film Society began screening films in Hudson's converted railway station in 2006 and staged their first Festival in 2008. The decision to concentrate on only Canadian Films came in 2016. The biggest all Canadian Festival is held in Kingston each Year but there are few others. Why just Canadian content has been voiced? Well why not is always my answer. Many excellent films are connected to our country and a Festival is a grand opportunity to showcase the best of them.

> The Wednesday opening day will feature three films and the first one, Run Woman Run will include a bit of an iconic teaser with the appearance of the ghost of Canada's first celebrated indigenous Olympian athlete, Tom Longboat. A lighthearted film with serious messages that don't shy away from the big topics, but at its heart it is an underdog story about overcoming obstacles and belief in one's self.

> It is in the second film, Ever **Deadly** that a living legend makes an appearance in the

> > (continued on page 6)



Buffy Sainte-Marie performing with a band. Photo Christie Goodwin

arts hudson, spring 20231

(continued from page 1)

don't actually know that much about each other. From upstairs, Zoe, the client appears. She is an editor and works at home. In their conversation, more information is gleaned about the reasons for the renovation. Zoe's husband hadn't left her, as the painters had supposed, but had died of an apparent heart attack - a very bloody one that left spattered blood all over the carpet and furniture?? It happened only two weeks before, and yet Zoe had already made a claim on his life insurance policy, and received payment. Fast work, by anyone's standards. A fourth character, Lois the next-door neighbour, appears, equipped with her own marital drama which she is happy to recount. She is interested in Zoe's planned renovation and has more tidbits to add about the demise of her husband. Lois, as it turns out, is Zoe's less-than-loving sister.

And so, the plot thickens, as it always does...

We have expectations of a Norm Foster play, and for me, he delivers. It's not for nothing that he is Canada's most produced dramatist, averaging 150 productions annually. In his own words, "I am creating a world from the ground up and populating it with characters I have

pulled out of my head, ordinary people just trying to get by in life." He claims to offer nothing monumental or profound, but I think he sometimes accomplishes both. His plots may be farfetched, but often they contain grains (even rocks) of truth. The dialogue is intricate, and when well performed, just plain funny.

Which brings us to the other side of the coin - "when well performed". I do not know, but I would imagine that his plays are not that easy to perform. The dialogue is fast moving, requires split-second timing, seamless body languageand, of course amazing chemistry between the actors. I attended a rehearsal recently, and watched as Mello (Nick Fontaine) and Dick (Tommy Furino) exchanged information about their backgrounds. We find out how Mello was inspired by a former colleague, a certain Darwin Dingle, who, when he died, requested Mello to stir his cremated remains into the stain applied to his family's deck, in order to remain close to them. Mello is also happy to describe the latest cool trends in dog grooming available to his dog, Earl (what, after all, is an Asian Fusion clip??). Mello is the thinker and Dick is the action guy and I thought they made a brilliant pair. Somewhat opposite in stature, they

compliment and enhance each other's words, gestures, facial expressions and tonality. It sounds as though the words had been written just for them.

The ladies (Fiona Chandler as Z?e and Lisa Fisher as Lois) were equally well matched. Fiona is a clever business woman and, it seems, ruthless in other areas as well. Lois is resentful of her sister. She has been less lucky with husbands and business, and is ready to extract revenge for past hurts. Their animosity is tangible.

As usual, the plot is convoluted, but hilariously so. Foster uses clich?s and stereotypes, but then proceeds to twist and make fun of them. It is a gift, I look forward to seeing the play and finding out exactly what happens. Steve Walters directs this play, and the sets are designed by J.C.Olivier. Shelley Walters is the stage manager, Karen Walker is the production manager, Andy Bowers, the technical director and Adam Walters is the lighting technician. It will play from April 26 to May 7, and there will be matin?e and evening performances. A Clean Brush is a Community Fundraiser for the Hudson Village Theatre. The cast have volunteered their time, and the proceeds will go to covering the theatre's operating expenses.



ChatGPT Likes Hudson

AI (Artificial Intelligence) is in the news so we asked ChatGPT, a popular chatbot operated by OpenAI, to describe the Town of Hudson, Quebec. Below is what it answered. We needed several tries to get a text without major mistakes.

"Hudson is a small town located in the province of Quebec, Canada. It is situated in the southwestern part of the province, about 60 kilometers west of Montreal, and has a population of around 5,000 people.

Hudson is known for its picturesque downtown area, which is filled with charming historic buildings, quaint shops, and restaurants. The town also has several parks and green spaces, including the Jack Layton Park, which is located on the shores of the Lake of Two Mountains.

One of the unique features of Hudson is its strong English-speaking community, which sets it apart from many other towns in Quebec. This community has helped to preserve the town's Anglophone heritage, and many of the local businesses cater to English speakers.

Hudson is also home to a number of cultural events and festivals throughout the year, including the Hudson Music Festival, the Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade, and the Hudson Village Theatre. In the winter, the town's outdoor ice rink and skiing facilities attract visitors from across the region.

Overall, Hudson is a charming and welcoming town with a strong sense of community and a rich cultural heritage."

Below is one of many attempts to get AI to generate an an image for the town of Hudson. This was the best one, with at least some recognizable features.



Three Hearts Hudson Ready-to-Wear Designer Clothing

448 Main Road, (438) 928-5298

On the right side of the old Habib's building you'll find a new women's fashion boutique. Featuring designs from Canada, New York and L.A., the store has spring fashions at the moment and is expecting summer wear soon.

A new line, to be received shortly, is knitwear by GOGO. The store will have a selection of sweaters and cardigans.

We spoke with Charlotte, shown in the picture at right, who told us the store is open Wednesdays through Sundays at the moment and will be extending its hours for the summer.

"We want to create a welcoming environment where customers can come in and try things on," she said. She can also give style advice if asked. In fact, while we were at the store, a lady was trying on different tops and asked Charlotte for advice.

Look for the three hearts in each front window. The windows also feature mani-

kins with some of the dresses and the store is online at:

threeheartshudson.com, and

instagram under threeheartshudson



AUM Apparel - Sustainable and Ethical Products in the Wellness Space

67 Cameron Ave., upstairs; (514) 465-0393

It's easy to miss but it's worth a visit. Up the stairs above the Mineral Manufacture Pottery Studio Thomas Morris runs AUM Apparel. He has organized the tiny space so that it's easy to see what he offers. He specializes in natural products and Yoga gear and his business card includes the text, "United by the Practice."

Thomas says he was looking for high-quality yoga products and couldn't find any in the whole region. So he decided to open the store. He has a selection of sustainably sourced and ethically produced goods. Up the stairs and to one side of his reception desk are shelves with soaps, lotions and oils, all vegan and not tested on animals. Across the small room to the left are hemp T shirts, sweatshirts, sweat pants and jumpers. In the middle of the room are Yoga books and towels while on the right side are workout wear, yoga mats, blocks and water bottles.

Aum Apparel opened in December 2022 so Thomas is still looking to see what works and how to develop his business.

He also sells online at aumapparel.ca where you can buy gift cards as well, and you can order online and pick up at the store. If you have questions, you can call Thomas or email him at hello@aumapparel.ca.



Still Singing - Brian Gallagher's Meandering Musical Journey by Carmen Marie Fabio

basement and I thought, 'Wow, that's pretty cool!'" Leblanc further suggested that Gallagher come to the Hudson Yacht Club where jam nights were held weekly. Despite his initial hesitance, not having picked up his beloved 1979 Norman guitar in years, he ultimately went, which set the framework for his return to music.

"By happenstance, I ended up meeting Sarah Kemerer who played the fiddle and by 2008 we were having a Hudson Music Festival meeting at Brian Bowser's house." A young lady named Emily Lamarche mentioned she'd love to sing the Elvis classic 'Heartbreak Hotel' which, coincidentally, Gallagher knew how to play. The chance encounter and kismet timing led to the trio performing under the very name 'Happenstance.'

Happenstance happens

"We just hit it off and started playing music." The group performed for the next nine years in and around Hudson with a few personnel changes along the way, as is apt to happen in creative ventures. The band saw members come and go including luthier Joel Weber who currently resides in Saint-Zotique where he owns and operates Weber Instruments, six-string electric and bass guitars. He accompanied Happenstance for their second EP titled 'Rain' in 2012, a project Gallagher describes as 'electric and almost poppy' instead of the more folky feel of their first album, along with drummer Nick Thompson. Gallagher's first original song written and performed with Happenstance was titled, 'Love Will Bring You Back' to raise funds for Hudsonite Jim Norcross' daughter who had suffered a car accident in the Baha-

(continued from page 1)

mas in 2012. Proceeds raised money to help pay for her transport back to Canada to receive medical care.

A third release by Happenstance in 2015 titled 'Everything Changes' featured Tamara Clark on lead vocals and, as the name suggests, Gallagher's musical projects and co-creators continued to evolve with the release of the self-titled 'As the Crow Flies' in 2016 and his eponymous project 'Gallagher' in 2017. The year 2019 saw another trio compilation of 'Gallagher Ford Thompson' again featuring Nick Thompson and Keith Ford with an album titled 'A Simple Plan.' Besides electric and acoustic guitars, Gallagher also plays harmonica, mandolin, and - what he describes as his 'favourite' - a four-string Irish Tenor

Not country, not rock, not pop...

Gallagher describes his musical style as, "folk rock for lack of a better term." As one recording executive from Coalition Records said in 2012, "You're not country, you're not rock, you're not pop....'

"They didn't know where to put us," he recounted. "And I took that as a badge of honour."

Like everyone else, the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020 forced Gallagher into seclusion but not a creative exile. He used the time to release an album titled 'Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow and All the Days In-between.'

His most recent release from 2022 is titled 'An Ordinary Guy' which is, as the name implies, a tribute to all the ordinary guys out there who are, "....not a Nascar built for speed but if you jump right in here next to me, I'll be every-

thing you need."

Gallagher has shared the news that his current music project will sport the banner 'These Four Walls,' due out later this year.

As if he wasn't busy enough, Gallagher's current musical partnership titled 'Times2' is an acoustic duo (and sometimes trio) with Jenn Arditi and Brian Ito. He's also on stage for an acoustic open-mic night at Studio 77 in the West Island where all levels of players are welcome to join in.

Storytelling evolution

"I'm just making music. I'm writing songs and letting them out there," he said, reflecting on how his music's evolution has seen his work become more narrative-based and emotionally-themed." The thing that's most important to me in song writing is the lyrics – the story," which, more often than not, comes from dreams and imagination rather than everyday experiences.

When pressed for details of an example, Gallagher shared an excerpt of one of his upcoming releases titled 'Familiar Surroundings' which include the lyrics,

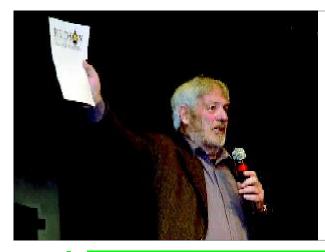
Let me die in surroundings familiar Let me sit down once more by the fire Let me go through the photos in old wooden frames,

The faces that comfort though I've forgotten their names
Because everything there is everything I've ever known
Back in my home, back in my home, back in my home

For more of Brian Gallagher's music, consult

facebook.com/GallagherOfficial and gallagherofficial.bandcamp.com/

His music is also available on all streaming platforms.





"Sameday, we will all die, Snoopy!" "True, but on all the other days, we will not."

- Charlie Brown

www.clintward.ca.

The Missing Pages Reviewed by Kathryn Lamb

The performance of "The Missing Pages" at the Hudson Village Theatre on Sunday, February 25 was completely sold out! This musical event, described as a "chamber musical", was a coproduction of the Hudson Village Theatre and the Hudson Chamber Music Series. "The Missing Pages", created by renowned CBC writer broadcaster Tom Allen, and directed by Richard Greenblatt, combines dramatized storytelling with a chamber ensemble on stage. In this case the story is based on a documented event, which was a meeting in Vienna on December 13 and 16, 1825 between the legendary musician and composer Ludwig von Beethoven and a vounger musician, Theodore Molt, the only Canadian ever to have met Beethoven in person.

On the stage during this performance

(continued on page 10)

Microbrasserie Cardinal Features the Art of James Parry, a Bierissage

The Microbrasserie Cardinal has always had art on its walls. With the opening featuring the works of James Parry, they are introducing the concept of the bierissage, an artistic opening with new works, music, nibbles and lots of Cardinal beer.

Art and music lovers braved a snow storm mid-February to see the new works by James Parry, snack on veggies and a cheese platter, and drink the excellent beer. Local residents greeted our mayor, who enjoyed the proceedings from a corner table.

Live music was provided by Pagoda Starling with Briana Doyle and Seiji Gutierrez. Briana says the name combines the characteristics of a temple with the complex mur urations of starlings. The temple is both a gathering place and shelter while the little birds repsent the music.



Pagoda Starling plays at the Microbrasserie Cardinal during the bierissage opening, featuring the works of James Parry, visible in the back.

Photo by Heather Markgraf

The Art of Gardening - Reimagining one's plants in this age of political correctness by James Parry

Statues and monuments of historic figures including Queen Elizabeth II, Queen Victoria, former Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald, and Egerton Ryerson founder of Ryerson University in Montreal, all toppled or banished and removed from plain sight. Long time bestselling children's books edited and republished to better reflect the supposed morals of the day, the latest example being some of those by the late British author Roald Dahl who has been called one of the greatest storyteller for children of the 20th Century and whose books have sold over 250 million copies worldwide. And don't even get me started on classroom curriculae. And all in the name of political correctness that is sweeping North America and indeed the so-called civilized world.

Which has got me thinking. What next? Plants? Flowers? Trees? Don't laugh. For I'm sure it's only a matter of time before some well-intentioned and well-funded revisionists will turn the spotlight on our gardens - both outdoor and indoor - and inform us that, however unintentionally perhaps, we have been tolerating racist slurs while just trying to enjoy nature and beautify our homes and gardens.

WANDERING JEW

Well, to be honest, they don't have too far to look. Perhaps the most obvious example being that favourite green and purple fast spreading, easily cultivated house plant that is often featured outdoors in hanging baskets and window boxes known as **Wandering Jew.** Much easier to say for sure than its real botanical name *Tradescantia zebrina*. The term itself, incidentally, is said to stem from 13th Century Christian folklore and the character is a



Hudson Chamber Music

Aux deux hémisphères **by Steve Ambler**

The Hudson Chamber Music Series is pleased to announce its next concert, on March 26 at 4pm. The duo of Dominique Beauséjour-Ostiguy (cello) and Jean-Michel Dubé (piano) will present a program of works by Rachmaninoff, Liszt, Fauré and Gaspar Cassado, as well as original works by Dominique Beauséjour-Ostiguy himself.

This concert marks a return to St. James Church Hall (642 Main Road in Hudson) after an absence of almost three years due to the pandemic. Weve been lucky to be able to hold concerts at St. Thomas Church since early in 2022, but we're pleased to be able to accommodate a large audience once again at St. James Hall. It is an ideal setting for chamber music with wonderful acoustics (CBC Music has recorded concerts there in the past). It also has an unparalleled view of the Lake of Two Mountains and the church grounds.

Grand Prize winner of the 2018 Prix d'Europe, the 2021 Choquette-Symcox Prize and the 2017 Peter Mendell Prize, cellist Dominique Beauséjour-Ostiguy is

(continued on page 7)



Photograph by James Parry

Iconic Canadians to be Celebrated at the Hudson Film Festival

by Clint Ward

form of Tanya Tagaq one of the most innovative musical performers of our time. The film weaves concert footage with stunning sequences filmed in Nunavut bridging landscapes with pain, anger, stories and songs as she weaves her magic. By now you might have guessed that Tanva is a "throat singer" but she is also a pioneer in this musical style, an experimental musician, painter, acclaimed author and a member of the Order of Canada. The New Yorker praised her work for technical skill, mastery of tradition and fearless lack of inhibition. She blends her Inuit throat singing with electronic, classical and rock music. Tanya Tariq is a Juno Award, Canadian Aboriginal Music Award and Polaris Music Prize winner. She is proudly part of what has been termed the Indigenous Music Renaissance? an innovative new generation of Indigenous artists in Canada

To end the opening day our second legend is on stage in Buffy-Sainte Marie: Carry it on. Buffy is a Canadian-American singer-songwriter, musician, composer, visual artist, educator, pacifist, and social activist. Her work has often focused on issues facing Indigenous peoples of the Americas. Her singing and writing repertoire also includes subjects of love, war, religion, and mysticism. She has won recognition, awards and honours for her music as well as her work in education and social activism. A Companion of the Order of Canada, an Acadamy Award winner, an Honorary Doctor of Laws - University of Toronto and still active. Several of the members of our film society had the pleasure of seeing this film at TIFF and when it was over we immediately voiced in unison, "We have to show this in Hudson on Opening Day!"

What a great Wednesday - the cinematic adventure continues on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday!

There are only two days with 3 films and Thursday is the next one starting at 2.00 pm with, *The Swearing Jar* which has a bit of everything - some bad words but lots of music and romance. At 4.30 pm one of the 2 documentaries of the day begins with *Gabor* about a world famous photographer living in Montreal. Gabor Szilasi's life work is the sublect of a wonderful film with a real Quebec feel. It is followed at 8.00 pm by a documentary everyone who

admires the next legend wants to see - Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, a Journey, a Song.



Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, a Journey, a Song

I admit to loving Hallelujah and being a bit of a student of its history and the enormity of its reach and popularity. So many artists have covered it and we all have a favourite version but for me it was k.d. lang's rendering on television in Australia. While writing this I took a peak at the opening ceremonies of the 2010 Winter Olympics. See for yourself - go to YouTube and ask for - k.d. lang performs Hallelujah - Vancouver 2010 Olympics Opening Ceremony. The spectators and athletes surrounding her set the scene as she sings this Leonard Cohen anthem to a world wide audience of a claimed 3 billion! Sort of takes your breath away. Read that number again and slowly let it sink in. That many people listening to a Canadian Icon's song at the same time. The perfect song, the perfect film to end day 2. More to come -

Everyone can sleep late on Day 3 because the main screen doesn't light up until 4.00 pm. Before that there will a program of short films and workshops for young filmmakers at The Hudson Creative Hub.

The response to our 4.00 pm film at other Festivals and locations has indicated we are in for a treat with **Peace by Chocolate.** Based on a true story it tells of the birth of a thriving chocolate factory in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. There might be some of that chocolate available in the Theatre bar as well as on the screen.

(continued from page 1)

At 8.00 pm the film will be **Viking** about a Society recruiting volunteers for the first manned mission to Mars. The goal is to form a B-team that will mirror the mission here on Earth in order to find solutions to the interpersonal problems that the Mars-bound crew is experiencing. It is a story about the gap between our dreams and reality. **Viking** is a profound masterwork from visionary filmmaker Stéphane Lafleur.



Viking

Saturday is traditionally the big Festival day and this year 4 movies are on the schedule beginning with, *Falcon Lake* at 10.00 am. Filmed in the Laurentians it is a story about young romance haunted by a ghost legend. We can all remember that first love but how many of us had to endue a ghostly presence as well.



Falcon Lake

Lunch from 12.00 pm to 1.00 pm - Soup and Sandwiches from Hudson's Que de Bonnes Choses will be available for sale in the lobby along with refreshments from the bar.

The 1.30 pm film, Drinkwater, is a



Drinkwater

Iconic Canadians to be Celebrated at the Hudson Film Festival

by Clint Ward

comedy that one critic has labeled the most Canadian movie ever made. There is a Zamboni in it, a Tim Horton's scene, a Wayne Gretzky subplot and a sound track of classic Canadian rockers. It also has a bit of a Hudson connection because the director Stephen Campanelli had his very first film job in our town with the 1986 filming of Meatballs III.

One of the true Gems of this year's Festival might be the Saturday evening, 8.00 pm award winning documentary Geographies of Solitude. It earned the Jury prize at the Berlin International Film Festival, Best Canadian Film at Hot Docs Film Festival and Best Canadian Documentary at the Vancouver International Film Festival. The story is an immersion into the rich ecosystem of Sable Island and is a playful and reverent collaboration with the natural world of wild horses, bugs, peaks, valleys, roots, sands, weathers, seasons and stars. A critics quote, "The intangible is evoked with hidden sounds and vanishing light - an absolutely beautiful film."



Geographies of Solitude

For the Final Day on Sunday the Festival moves to another screen at the Creative Hub with a 2.00 pm showing of a delightful first film by Chandler Levack, a young woman from Toronto. How many of us remember the Video stores of the past - before DVDs, before Blurays and before home streaming choices. Some of us might have nurtured our love of film on VHS Tape. I Like **Movies** is a touching comedy about a self-obsessed teenaged curmudgeon pursuing his dreams in early 2000s suburban Ontario. There are two "finds" here - an emerging talented director and a teenaged boy devouring his first film role.

With the Festival program ending another ticket will get you into a dinner and screenings of Short Films which will take place in the hub at 7.00 pm. It will be a celebration of some great Canadian Films.

That's it for the **BEST little CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL.** 13 feature length Films, among them, 7 Documentaries, 5 films from Quebec 4 films about Canadian Icons. 5 Award winning films, 3 Indigenous films and a short film program.

(continued from page 6)

Put the dates aside, pril 12 to 16 and dive right in. Two passes will be available - the get it all **ULTIMATE PASS** for \$75.00 or a **SIX FILM PASS** for \$50.00. Single Tickets (if available) on sale in the week prior to the opening. hudsonfilmsociety.ca

Hudson Chamber Music - Aux deux hémisphères by Steve Ambler (continued from page 5)

ranked among the "30 hot Canadian classical musicians under 30" (CBC Music, 2018). Twice a first prize winner at the Canadian Music Competition, Dominique performs as a soloist with several orchestras in Quebec City. A sought-after and committed chamber musician, Dominique is a founding member of the Trio de l'Ile and the Andara Quartet. He also joined the renowned Trio Hochelaga in 2018. As a composer, Dominique was awarded the 3rd artistic grand prize in the Domicile Adoré composition competition organized by the Jeunesses Musicales Canada Foundation in 2020.

He plays a David Tecchler cello (1704) courtesy of one of our regular sponsors, Canimex Inc. of Drummondville (QC), Canada.

Jean-Michel Dubé is the winner of several national and international piano competitions. These include the Grand Prize at the 2017 Canadian Music Competition, the Special Prize at the German Piano Open International Competition, and the Pierre Mantha Prize at the 2016 Prix d'Europe Competition.

He has played with numerous orchestras as a concert artist in Canada and Europe. As a chamber musician, he has recorded André Mathieu's chamber music with the chamber musicians of Les Violons du Roy. He collaborates with various other chamber groups and

as a duettist with Rosemarie Duval-Laplante (piano four hands) and of course with Dominique Beauséjour-Ostiguy.

Jean-Michel rehearses on a piano kindly provided by Canimex Inc.

The concert kicks off with one of Sergei Rachmaninoff's best-known shorter pieces, his *Vocalise*. Originally written for soprano and piano, it has been arranged for numerous different combinations of solo instrument and piano or orchestra. Gaspar Cassado was a Spanish cellist and composer of the early twentieth century, who studied with Pablo Casals in Paris. The first movement of his *Suite* for solo cello is the second work

on the program. Franz Liszt's Vallée d'Obermann for piano follows. It's one of the pieces from the first book of his piano suites entitled Années de pélerinage, and has been called a "masterclass in thematic transformation." Gabriel Fauré's Élégie concludes the first half of the concert. One of Fauré's best known and most beloved works, it is probably best known in its orchestral version, as arranged by the composer. However, it was written for cello and piano and intended as the slow movement of a sonata that Fauré never completed.

After the intermission, the duo will perform three works by Dominique: Do Mi Si La Do Ré, the Sonata number 2 in G Minor, and Voltige. The three works showcase the virtuoso technique of the composer. They have been recorded by the duo on their album Aux deux hémisphères, which was just released. Full details about the album as well as extracts which underline the romantically-inspired nature of the music are available on the composer's website:

dominiquebeausejourostiguy.com

Individual tickets will be available at the door for \$25. Admission for those 14 and under is free. Our goal, as always, is to offer worldclass chamber music in Hudson without the commute to the big city and without the big-



Remembering Bob Corriveau,

and his legacy for future generations By James Parry

he could to preserve the natural beauty of our region.

But unknown to most, if not all, of those homeowners, Bob who passed away in late 2021 at the age of 88, had another secret passion. Namely collecting, labelling, cataloguing, and superbly displaying rocks from around the world in a very special room in his Hudson home.



Just part of the collection in Bob's Hudson home.

The collection truly was of museum quality and showcased in four upright glass units and cubicles acquired from the town's former landmark international clothing boutique Legg's.

Today, that extensive collection, encompassing samples not only from Canada but also the United States, Australia,

England, France and the Congo and together with those original display cases has found a new home. Two in fact. One at Dawson College, the other at John Abbott College, where they will be showcased and used, as Bob wished, for educational purposes.

This should not really come as a surprise, however. For Bob, who was born

in Brooklyn, NY and who bought his first home here in 1967 with his wife Paule, was first and foremost a teacher. He taught for 32 years at Vaudreuil Catholic High School where he was affectionately known by his students as Mr. C from 1965 until 1992. Ironically perhaps, he first launched Bob's Tree Service in 1974 and all because of several teacher strikes!

It was in 1952, however, when he finished High School that he first became interested in geology and

rocks. He worked at the Gaspé Copper Mines in Murdochville, Quebec, as an assistant to the underground surveyor. Evidently, an incident that had happened in the mines that summer made him realize that his life was more important and would be less strenuous if he went back to a college or university to obtain a degree related to mines and miner-

als.

And so in 1953 he decided to attend ST-FXU in Antigonish NS in the Geology Program, graduating in 1957 when he was in fact Class President. And that is when his life's passion for rocks first took root and would never leave him.

Recalls his daughter Anne, "I still remember my Dad talking to me and saying 'when I go, I want

(continued from page 1)

this rock collection to be donated to a school for educational purposes. This way, students can learn a lot from them.' And while every one of his grand-children and four kids chose to keep some rocks in his memory, or a display that they could not part with due to the background of the rocks, there was still a very large collection left that we decided to split between the two colleges."



A tribute to Bob atop a display shelf at Dawson.

At John Abbott's Department of Geology, the gift was received by Professor Richard Léveillé and at Dawson by Professor Cathy Pappas Maenz who has been running the Geology Department since 2007. Says Maenz, "I was so honoured to be approached by the family since Mr. Corriveau had invited me and my husband a few years ago to his house and showed us his prized collection of rocks. And I plan to make a display in class for my students, use it for research projects, and make a plaque in his honour and explain who he was and what he did."

Proving that old adage that an apple doesn't fall too far from the tree, but in this case make that a rock doesn't fall too far from the mountain, I was fascinated to learn that Bob's granddaughter Stephanie has followed in his footsteps. Having graduated with Honours from McGill University, she has been working as a geologist since 2008 on and off the field and for the past 10 years as a Mining Services Software Senior manager with French-based Dassault Systèmes in addition to consulting and teaching mining software.



Another section of Bob's home display, each piece identified and catalogued

Remembering Bob Corriveau,

and his legacy for future generations
By James Parry



Geology students at Dawson with part of Bob's collection at the back of their classroom.

But wait. There's more. For Bob had another treasured collection. Namely every copy of *National Geographic Magazine* from 1963 until 2021, and indeed he did read every single issue. Says Anne, "The night before his passing, almost as if he knew tomorrow was his last day on this earth, he told his grand-daughter for whom he had a special place in his heart, 'Please, when I go I don't want this collection to go into the

garbage or be broken up. I want you to find find a home for it. It's a great way to learn about many different things in life, so educational, and it taught me so many things in my life. Reading is knowledge."

Explains Anne, "So I tried calling every library, school, and collector to see if they would be interested but they either had it, had a digital copy, no room, or too large of a collection. It was then sug-

(continued from page 8)

gested that I could donate to the Concordia Epic Used Book Fair they have. All money made from each book sold goes towards Students Scholarships which my Dad would have approved of since it was towards education and in March there will be the 22nd Epic Book Fair."

A few years before his passing, Bob wrote a very personal memoire for his family only. The last paragraph of which reads, "When I tell people/friends that I enjoyed three different fields of work, five years in geological exploration, 32 years of teaching high school math comprising science and especially physics, and 40 years of tree service, they produce a facial expression that lies between a smirk and nonsense. But when I look up from my work/writing table, I notice and survey items, objects, pictures and photos, rock samples, yearbooks, and maps. All of the above involved, in one way or another, in having made my life a wonderful venture. An adventure that lasted a lifetime."

Well Bob, I guess you had the last laugh. For every word of it is true! And on a personal note, I would like to think that somewhere in your extensive collection, wherever it may now be, there are a few pieces of black Whitby Jet stone that I brought back from the North-east coast of England a few years ago, as well as a chunk of very special granite that I found on the rocky shore of Maine while sea glass hunting which you were so pleased to accept and pop in a display case. Who knows? Perhaps even for future generations!

GALLERY +

galleryplus.ca

Markgraf prints, James Parry drawings, Chris Elliott MP3s, Susan Jephcott paintings and books, Heather Lowe Hudson landscapes, Hudson T shirts and sweatshirts

The Missing Pages , reviewed by Kathryn Lamb

were Beethoven (Derek Boyes), Theodore Molt, a Canadian musician who was travelling in Europe at the time (Gregory Oh), and Susannah Sotto (Patricia O'Callaghan) a talented soprano known to both Beethoven and Molt.

Also on stage were Anton Schindler, (Thomas Allen), Beethoven's would-be secretary and manager, who also occasionally played a bass trombone, and harpist Lori Gemmell with her magnificent art-deco harp (a character in itself). It was a quirky mix, both instrumentally, and personally.

Although the world is in awe of Beethoven's talent, he is, by now, almost totally deaf. This great man is also grumpy and intolerant, estranged from his family, and totally disorganized. He needs a secretary to put his papers in order, so he can get paid for his work, and to transcribe his music for various different instruments - a very time-consuming job.

Schindler would like to do this. In his own words, he would like to be his idol's "narrator," but Beethoven doesn't trust him, and maybe, we are led to believe, for good reason.

Because he is deaf, Beethoven uses journals and note books - what he calls "con-

versation books", to keep track of his thoughts, visitors and transactions.

But four pages, from the notebook covering the middle of December, 1925, and including the two visits made by Molt to Beethoven on December 13 and 16, have been ripped from the book entirely, and have disappeared. What could these pages have contained? Therein lies this story.

On stage, Beethoven vacillates between belligerence and frustrated silence. Schindler is constantly trying to argue for and defend his work. Molt would like to ingratiate himself - he is after all, only a humble music teacher from Quebec, a place peopled, according to the maestro, by "barbaric, fur-trapping monsters."

Yet Molt seems to understand that what Beethoven needs most of all is a sympathetic listener who doesn't want anything from him. Susannah with her lovely voice, offers songs that provide relief from the collision of temperamental male energies.

She is encouraging to Molt, and it seems they have met in the past. But she herself has experienced her own setbacks and has to deal with them.

There are comedic moments too, as when Beethoven, besotted with

(continued from page 5)

Susannah, abandons his musical composition to write her a love poem complete with some rather cringing rhymes... geranium with uranium, carnation with damnation, begonia with pneumonia. Poetry was definitely not his forte.

Supporting and framing all the dramas and the comedies throughout this production is the inspired harp playing of Lori Gemmell on her glorious maple wood harp glowing from its corner on the stage.

But you do have to see the performance to discover the ending, and I was glad to be there. It was an elegant and original telling of a story that, no matter how speculative, I would love to believe in.

Just to view the performance and hear the music was a great post-pandemic treat! The musical components included a few lovely vocal solos by Susannah (Laschia ch'io Pianga - Handel and Auf dem Hügel - Beethoven), harp solos by Lori Gemmell (including Sonata no.15 in D, Opus28 by Beethoven and the last movement from the Grosse Fuga 1925, one of Beethoven's last works - he died in 1826).

As well, it seems, Molt returned to Canada with a souvenir- a canon (or round) written on a single sheet of pa-

per called "Rejoice in Life" (Freu Dich desLebens - Dec. 16, 1825), that was performed in this show by the whole cast.

This paper, in Beethoven's own handwriting, now resides in the National Archives of Canada.



Reimagining one's plants in this age of political correctness, by James Parry (continued from page 5)

Jewish man who, despite no evidencein the Bible, is said to have taunted Jesus before he was crucified. And that as punishment for his taunt, he was cursed to walk the Earth until the return of Christ. Give me a break!

DIEFFENBACHIA

And what about Diffenbachia, another favourite house plant that has tranditionally gone the common name Dumb Cane? Apparently, it contains calcium oxalate crystals that are found in many of our favourite tropical plants and they can cause irritation of the mouth and GI tract if pets or people chew on the plants. The oral irritation and swelling caused by these crystals could render someone 'dumb', an archaic way of saying incapable of speech. Well it turns out that these toxic properties were once exploited

by slavers in the Caribbean and used to punish the people held as slaves. Horrific but true! And just in case you were wondering, no this plant was not named after John Diefenbaker our Prime Minister from 1957 to1963. But rather a certain Herr Joseph Dieffenbach, head gardener at the Royal Palace Gardens in Vienna way back in the 1830s!

CLIVIA MINATA

One of my favourite houseplants with its beautiful orange flowers that I put out every summer and bring back inside in the fall has to be **Clivia.** Also known in its Native South Africa as *Natal Lily* and *Bush Lily*, introduced to England in the early 1800s and named after Lady Charlotte Clive who was the Duchess of Northumberland, the granddaughter of Robert Clive also known as Clive of India. A common name, however, is *Kaffir Lily* and this where the problem arises. You see, the Merriam-Webster dictionary tells us that the word



Photograph by James Parry

"is a profoundly offensive and inflammatory expression of contemptuous racism" in South Africa. In fact, it's so offensive that using it is "sufficient grounds for legal action." Interestingly enough,

the k-word was first used in Arabic to describe non-believers, but was used by European colonists in South Africa to describe the African population there.

CROTON

Another really pretty, easy-maintenance houseplant that can thrive outdoors in summer is **Croton** which comes in a dazzling diversity of

colours but here again there would appear to be a problem. For one of its more common names is *Croton Mammy* and, again according to Merriam Webster, this is either a synonym for mama or "a Black woman serving as a nurse to white children especially formerly in the southern U.S." Inexcusable for sure, but I still love them anyway!

INDIAN PAINTBRUSH

And what about Indian Paintbrush? Also known here as Milkweed or Butterflyweed because these winged beauties are attracted not only by their colour but also by the tremendous amount of nectar that they produce. Moreover, it is the larval food plant for Monarch butterflies, a threatened species. According to revisionists, Native Peoples in the U.S. where they grew like weeds never used them as paint brushes, which indeed they did resemble, but rather as a medicine or shampoo and they were given the name because it invoked something wild and primitive rather than actual living people with actual uses for the plants around them.

MOTHER-IN-LAW'S TONGUE

In closing, I would be remiss in not mentioning this hardy houseplant that is surely a barbed insult to mothers-in-law everywhere. Originating in West Africa, also known as **Snake Plant**, and with its thick, tall, sword-like leaves, it needs virtually no maintenance at all and will grow for years. The moniker is derived from the pointed tips of the leaves in the belief that they are as sharp as a mother-in-law's tongue! Go figure!



Photograph by James Parry

Arts Hudson Calendar of Events

March 2023 Events

Saturday, March 18th

Hudson St. Patrick's Day Parade - 1:00 pm

Cardinal Microbrewery - Irish Music with Tim Walsh and friends, 7:00 pm, cardinalhudson.com

Chateau du Lac - The Hallions, 9:00 pm

Village Theatre - March 17th & 18th, 10 Comedians, 8:00 pm

Hudson Film Society, hudsonfilmsociety.ca

Nowhere Special, Monday, March 20, 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm

Hudson Chamber Music Series, hudsonchambermusic.ca

Cellist Dominique Beaséjour-Ostiguy and Pianist Jean-Michel Dubé March 26th, 4:00 pm at St. James Church Hall

Cardinal Microbrewery Events, cardinalhudson.com

Sunday, March 19 (4 p.m.) - The Wineberries - Acoustic favourites;
Thursday, March 23 (7 p.m.) Acoustic Jam - Open to all!; Friday, March 24 (7 p.m.) Zoë Robertson - Local singer-songwriter; Saturday, March 25 (7 p.m.) Hudson's Got Jokes - English comedy night;
Sunday, March 26 (4 p.m.) Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends;
Wednesday, March 29 (7 p.m.; \$10, drink included) Trivia Night hosted by Dylan White and Liam Paull;
Thursday, March 30 (7 p.m.) Monthly Open Mic, hosted by Josée Brault and John Shane;
Friday, March 31 (7 p.m.) Less Than 4 - Classic rock

Chateau du Lac Events - chateaudulac.ca

Thursday, March 23rd (9:00 pm) Paolo Stante Band; Thursday, March 30 (8:00 pm) Eric Calder

April 2023 Events

Hudson Film Society, hudsonfilmsociety.ca

Hudson Film Festival - April 12th to 16th at the Village Theatre, villagetheatre.ca Wednesday, April 12th

2.00 pm, Run Woman Run, drama/comedy; 4.15 pm, Ever Deadly, documentary; 7.30 pm, Buffy Sainte Marie: Carry It On, documentary

Thursday, April 13th

2.00 pm, The Swearing Jar, drama/music/romance; 4.30 pm, Gabor, documentary; 8.00 pm, Hallelujah: Leonard Cohen, a Journey, a Song, documentary/biography/music

Friday, April 14th

4.00 pm, Peace by Chocolate, drama/comedy; 8.00 pm, Viking, drama/sci-fi

Saturday, April 15th

10.00 am, Falcon Lake, drama/romance; 1.30 pm, Drinkwater, comedy; 4.30 pm, North of Albany, drama; 8.00 pm, Geographies of Solitude, documentary

Sunday, April 16th, at the Creative Hub, **hudsoncreativehub.org** 2.00 pm, I Like Movies, drama;

7.00 pm, Celebration Dinner and Short Film Winners - Need separate ticket

Hudson Artists, artisteshudsonartists.com

Friday, April 14th to Sunday, April 16th - Spring Exhibition at the Hudson Community Centre

Village Theatre, villagetheatre.ca

A Clean Brush, by Norm Foster, directed by Steve Walters - a Village Theatre Fund Raiser 2:00 pm, Wednesday, April 26th; 8:00 pm, Thursday, April 27th; 8:00 pm, Friday, April 28th; 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Saturday, April 29th; 2:00 pm, Sunday, April 30th. See May on next page for more shows.

Have an event you want to promote? Email bert@artshudson.org

Arts Hudson Calendar of Events

April 2023 Events, continued

Cardinal Microbrewery Events, cardinalhudson.com

Saturday, April 1 (7 p.m.) Rob Brennan - country / new & old, classic rock / blues / jazz / "Americana"; Sunday, April 2 (4 p.m.) Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends;

Wednesday, April 5 (7 p.m.; \$10, drink included) Trivia Night moderated by Dylan White and Liam Paull; Thursday, April 6 (7 p.m.) Acoustic Jam - Open to all!;

Friday, April 7 (7 p.m.) The Better Half Duo - Original tunes and popular acoustic rock favourites; Saturday, April 8 (7 p.m.) The Wineberries - Acoustic pop-rock;

Sunday, April 9 (4 p.m.) Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends;

Thursday, April 13 (7 p.m.) Acoustic Jam - Open to all!; Friday, April 14 (7 p.m.) Walker and Wylde - Spirited Indie folk featuring non-stop energy, complex harmony, and hilarious storytelling;

Saturday, April 15 (7 p.m.) This is 2 - Acoustic rock/pop;

Sunday, April 16 (4 p.m.) - The Wineberries - Acoustic favourites;

Wednesday, March 19 (7 p.m.; \$10, drink included) Trivia Night hosted by Andrew Dumas;

Thursday, April 20 (7 p.m.) Acoustic Jam - Open to all!; Friday, April 21 (7 p.m.) Bruce Ciccarelli - easy listening, soft rock, folk and classic rock from artists like Blue Rodeo, The Eagles, America, Tom Petty, John Cougar, and REM; Saturday, April 22 (7 p.m.) Josée Brault - A selection of original music and acoustic favourites; Sunday, April 23 (4 p.m.) Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends;

Thursday, April 27 (7 p.m.) Monthly Open Mic, hosted by Josée Brault and John Shane; Friday, April 28 (7 p.m.) Starfield Cookout - Americana jam band; Saturday, April 29 (7 p.m.) Hudson's Got Jokes - English comedy night; Sunday, April 30 (4 p.m.) Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends

May 2023 Events

Village Theatre, villagetheatre.ca

A Clean Brush, by Norm Foster, directed by Steve Walters - a Village Theatre Fund Raiser 2:00 pm, Wednesday, May 3rd; 8:00 pm, Thursday, May 4th; 8:00 pm, Friday, May 5th; 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Saturday, May 6th; 2:00 pm, Sunday, May 7th.

Village Theatre, villagetheatre.ca

Early Morning Rain: The Legend of Gordon Lightfoot, featuring Lisa Way and The Wayward Wind Band 2:00 pm, Wednesday, May 10th; 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Thursday, May 11th; 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Friday, May 12th; 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Saturday, May 13th; 2:00 pm, Sunday, May 14th.

Cardinal Microbrewery Events, cardinalhudson.com

Wednesday, May 3 (7 p.m.) \$10, drink included) Trivia Night; Thursday, May 4 (7 p.m.) Acoustic Jam-Open to all; Friday, May 5 (7 p.m.) Ride for Dad Montreal's 2023 launch party, featuring the release of our Get Czech'd Dry-Hopped Golden Ale. With music by Mich and the Blues Bastards; Saturday, May 6 (7 p.m.) Gopal Devanathan & Peter Grant - Acoustic covers of rock tunes from The Rolling Stones, The Tragically Hip, Mumford & Sons and more; Sunday, May 7 (4 p.m.) Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends; Thursday, May 11 (7 p.m.) Acoustic Jam - Open to all; Friday, May 12 (7 p.m.) The Better Half Duo - Original tunes and popular favourites; Saturday, May 13 (7 p.m.) Pat Loiselle Duo - Bluegrass, Country, Blues, Celtic, and Classic Rock covers;
Sunday, May 14 (4 p.m.) Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends; Wednesday, May 17 (7 p.m.; \$10, drink included) Trivia Night; Thursday, May 18 (7 p.m.) Acoustic Jam - Open to all; Friday, May 19 (7 p.m.) - Paul Arthur Band - Classic old-time blues; Saturday, May 20 (7 p.m.) Pagoda Starling - Acoustic folk-rock; Sunday, May 21 (4 p.m.) - Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends; Thursday, May 25 (7 p.m.) Acoustic Jam - Open to all; Friday, May 26 (7 p.m.) The Breeze - Acoustic folk-rock with lush three-part harmonies;
Saturday, May 27 (7 p.m.) Hudson's Got Jokes - English comedy night; Sunday, May 28 (4 p.m.) Ditchflowers - Music from Tim Walsh & friends

June 2023 Events

Village Theatre, villagetheatre.ca

Johnny & June: A Musical Tribute (Johnny Cash and June Carter), A Christopher McHarge Production 2:00 pm, Wednesday, June 14th; 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Thursday, June 15th; 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Friday, June 16th; 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Saturday, June 17th; 2:00 pm, Sunday, May 18th.



APRIL 12 TO 16, 2023

THE BIG LITTLE CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL

5 DAYS OF THE VERY BEST OF CANADIAN FILMS

With modest beginnings, and a local passion for film, the Hudson Film Festival has attained an international reputation. It's now known as The BIG little CANADIAN FILM FESTIVAL.

FULL INFORMATION AT WWW.HUDSONFILMFESTIVAL.CA





