

MEDICAL EXPLORERS

to
Ms!

Medical Explorers

Sun 4:30-5:00 p.m., 7 Jan-17 Jun 1973

William Gibson, the curator of Woodward Medical Library at the University of British Columbia, hosted this thirteen part series. It provided overviews of medical history but, as the title suggests, it concentrated on individual contributions to the evolution of health care. Leonardo da Vinci, Sir William Harvey, who mapped the circulatory system, Charles Sheffington, pioneer in neurology, Lister and Jenner, the innovators of the smallpox vaccine, Christopher Wren, Florence Nightingale, Frank Fairchild Wesbrook, the developer of the ambulance, and Canadian Sir William Osler were all profiled in the series. Keith Christie produced the series in colour, in Vancouver.

The Medicine Show

Thu 9:30-10:00 p.m., 17 Jan-10 Apr 1980

Mon 9:30-

82). The Medicine Show was produced in Winnipeg by Andrew Cochran (1980-81), Michael Barnes (1982), Morris Karp (1982), and Paul Kent (1982), with executive producer Duncan McEwan.

Meet Lorraine

Wed 6:30-6:45 p.m., 9 Apr 1958-22 Apr 1959

A musical half hour from Vancouver, produced by Jorn Winther, Meet Lorraine introduced the band The EMCLOPaire. Hosts were Paire McAllister, with Chris Gage on piano, Stan Johnson on bass, and Jimmy Wightman on drums.

Meet Mr. X

Tue 5:00-5:30 p.m., 21 Jan-25 Mar 1958

Meet Mr. X was a half hour children's show, produced in Ottawa.

Meeting Place: Canadians At Worship

Meeting Place presented services of varying denominations from churches across Canada. Along with the broadcast of the service, it presented a short documentary profile of the church and the activities of its members. Hosts for the broadcast were Donald Henderson (1973-80) and Bruce Alton (1980-), and the producers were Tim Bentley (1973-74) and Garth Goddard (1974-), with executive producer Louise Lore.

Memorandum On A Frozen Ark

Mon 10:30-11:00 p.m., 6 Jul-17 Aug 1970

examined the role of museum and the balance of its activities in public display and research. Subsequent shows took viewers to the nation's major museums: the National Gallery, the National Museum of Science and Technology, the National Museum of Natural Sciences, the Royal Ontario Museum, the Museum of Man, and the National War and Aviation Museums. Bob Gardiner produced the series, which was hosted by Brian Smyth and Nelson Davis.

The Men And The Issues

Tue 10:00-10:30 p.m., 19 Mar 1963

Wed 10:00-10:30 p.m., 20 Mar 1963

Mon 8:00-8:30 p.m., 25 Mar 1963

Tue 8:00-8:30 p.m., 26 Mar 1963

Prior to the 1963 federal election, the CBC presented a series of four interviews with the leaders of the major federal parties: Lester Pearson of the Liberals, John Diefenbaker of the Progressive Conservatives, T.C. Douglas of the New Democratic Party, and R.N. Thompson of the Social Credit party. Their panel of interrogators consisted of Robert McKenzie, James McCook, Arthur Lower, Mark Harrison, and Clive Baxter.

Mexico

Mon 10:00-10:30 p.m., 25 Apr-16 May 1966

Public Affairs producer James Murray assembled this series of four, half hour films on contemporary Mexico. The first two programs, called *Gunpowder And Guitars* and *I Used To Be An Indian*, offered a profile of the Mexican people, the Spanish influence, and the transformation of the Indian image in an attempt to eliminate the country's own image as a colony. *Fiesta Of Bullets*, the third show in the series, outlined the country's political history and its revolutions. The conclusion, *The Lucky Ticket* compared Canada to Mexico by examining its relations to the United States. Harry Makin, Rolf Blakstad, and Stan Clinton shot the film, with sound by Eric Lindgren and Vic Mackintosh, and Arla Saare and

John Irwin. It was written and narrated by Lister Sinclair, directed by Murray and Sinclair, with the assistance of Bill Banting.

Midnight

Thu 12:00-1:00 a.m., 27 Feb-26 Jun 1975

A talk show, *Midnight* starred Laurier LaPierre, with music by a quartet led by Leon Bernier. (See LaPierre.)

Midnight Zone

The Equalizer and A Dispute Of Long Standing, and Trio, all by M. Charles Cohen; Monsieur Mac-Greg-Or, by Roy Shields; The Eleventh Hour, by Joseph Schull; The Colonel, by Roderick Wilkinson; and Mary Ann, by Eugene Cloutier.

Midweek

Thu 10:00-11:00 p.m., 30 Sep 1971-

The Minnow was a canoe in this fifteen minute children's drama, which originated in Vancouver, and was presented for thirteen weeks in the spring of 1960. It told the story of David and Adam, two boys who sought the treasure hidden by one of their ancestors in 1588 in the region of the river Say. The story was adapted for television by Peter Statner, and the program was narrated by Shirley Clothier, and starred Teddy Walker, Bill Duncan, Barbara Tremaine, and James Lindsey.

Miriam Breitman

Wed 5:30-6:00 p.m., 3 Jul-25 Sep 1968

This half-hour variety show starred Miriam Breitman, a vocal trio of Don Milne, Henri Enns, and Karen Enns, guitarist Lenny Breau, and an orchestra conducted by Bob McMullin. Breitman's guests included Maxine Ware, Georges La Fleche, Ron Halldorson, Reg Gibson, Roy Petty, Imgard Baerg, Yvette, Hector Bremner, Ray St. Germain, Ted Komar, Laurel Ward, and Arthur Polson. Dale Watson produced the show in Winnipeg.

Miss Patricia's Phantasmagorical Presentation Of Songs And Things

Starting in autumn 1973, Bronwen Mantel replaced McGowan on several shows devoted the household tasks that were presumed of particular interest to women, such as upholstery, and hanging curtains and wallpaper.

In the 1978-79 season, Bill Brown had to withdraw from the show because of illness, and Jon Eakes took his place as Mr. Chips. The program was produced in the CFCF-TV studios in Montreal by Lou Albert for Champlain Productions.

Mr. Dressup

Just about every local station at one time or another has produced a children's program in which a local staff announcer or weatherman presented cartoons and serials in the early morning or late afternoon. If they did not appear on local Canadian stations, they were certainly accessible to viewers who received signals from the States. (From my youth in Toronto, I remember a succession of such shows and hosts beamed across the border from Buffalo: Rocketship Seven, with astronaut Dave Thomas; the naval Cap'n Mike; the military Commander Tom; and Jungle Jay, the Kurtz of his time, who later emigrated to Canada to become Toronto radio's top-rated morning disk jockey.) This type of show also earned its own level of self-referential parody with such hosts as Soupy Sales in the U.S.A. and Kiddo the Clown in Toronto. However, a more responsible and thoughtful strain of this formula also developed. Mr. Dressup, a half-hour, daily broadcast, formed part of a genre of children's television programming, which preceded and parallels the Sesame Street revolution of 1969, and included The Friendly Giant (q.v.), and Captain Kangaroo and Mister Rogers' Neighborhood in the U.S.A. On each of these programs, a soft-spoken man invited young viewers into his house, where there were always things to do, songs to sing, toys to play with, and books to read. More than a host who just linked cartoons and film clips, Friendly, the Captain, and Messrs. Rogers and Dressup became companions and teachers for the children. They all took the place of the child viewer's father, who presumably had gone off to work. If there

character). However, they have shown a high return as participatory entertainment and education for young viewers.

Ernie Coombs, a bespectacled fellow with an easy and wide smile, is Mr. Dressup, the gentle, playful, forthright and informative friend to his audience of preschool children. In the early 1960s, Coombs moved to Canada from Pittsburgh, following the example of Fred "Mister" Rogers, who was also working in children's broadcasting. In fact, one of Coombs's first jobs in Canada was as Rogers's assistant puppeteer for programs produced at the CBC in Toronto.

Mr. Dressup first appeared regularly on the network on Butternut Square (q.v.), which started in 1964. In the middle of the 1966-67 season, the program scaled down, concentrated on Coombs's character, and moved from the town square to Mr. Dressup's house, which he shares with Casey, a flaxen-haired, rosy-cheeked puppet boy, and Finnegan, a puppet dog with floppy ears (operated by Judith Lawrence). Mr. Dressup is the kind of fellow who saves string and yarn and a lot of other things, because you never know when they'll come in handy. Crayons and scissors and paper of different sorts are always at the ready for drawing and painting and cutting and pasting. Most important, though, the house has a trunk full of costumes so that Mr. Dressup and Casey and their friends can become the characters in the stories they act out. As his name suggests, Mr. Dressup is more likely to playact, and consequently is a little less sober and mediating than Friendly or the Captain, who often let their secondary characters play out the children's fantasies. While by no stretch of the imagination a clown, Coombs's Mr. Dressup can stumble a little.

Mr. Fixit

Sat 6:30-6:45 p.m., 8 Oct 1955-28 Apr 1956

Sat 6:30-6:45 p.m., 6 Oct 1956-26 Mar 1960

Wed 7:45-8:00 p.m., 2 Jul 1960-24 Jun 1961

Wed 7:45-8:00 p.m., 20 Sep 1961-27 Jun 1962

Wed 7:45-8:00 p.m., 3 Oct 1962-24 Jun 1963

Wed 7:45-8:00 p.m., 16 Oct 1963-24 Jun 1964

Wed 7:45-8:00 p.m., 30 Sep 1964-30 Jun 1965

Peter Whittall had been introduced to the television viewer on the evening series, *Living*, where he demonstrated crafts and simple home repair. When that show ended its run, the CBC gave him his own fifteen minute time slot and christened him *Mr. Fixit*. In an era when most men seen on television wore jackets and ties, uniforms, or costumes, Whittall cut a distinctive figure dressed in plaid flannel shirts and dungarees, ready for work in the shop. With a tousled shock of dark hair, and a pudgy face and frame, Whittall looked a little like Brendan Behan or Lou Costello. He demonstrated to the show's host, CBC announcer Rex Loring, how to handle basic tasks in home construction, carpentry, and repair. In part because of the brief time slot, *Mr. Fixit* could not delve into complex projects. Instead, he concentrated on the jobs that could be done with handsaw, hammer, screwdriver, block plane, combination mitre square, and level, and stayed away from territory that called for skilled craftsmen. Whittall answered Loring's questions and demonstrated with the quiet authority of someone who knew what he was doing. In the era in which more and more people owned their own homes, and perhaps had to make improvements either through desire or to provide new

Thu 5:15-5:30 p.m., 4 Oct 1956-4 Jul 1957

Sun 12:30-1:00 p.m., 30 Apr-23 Jul 1967

A series of thirteen, half-hour programs, Modern Canadian Poetry was originally scheduled for broadcast in Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal, and was produced by

Russell Wingate; John Bethune as Dr. Gil Bennett; Ann Campbell as Diane; Alan Bly as Arthur; Fernande Giroux as Monique; John Horton as Eric Brandt; Chris Wiggins as Dexter; Anne Collings as Kathy; Mira Pawluk as a disturbed girl, and Anna Hagan as her mother. The first shows in the series were written by Clare Kennedy. The series was taped in Toronto at Robert Lawrence Productions, and was sold to NBC-TV, where it ran from January to November 1965.

Mon Ami

This daily quarter-hour, produced by John Thorne, succeeded *Chez Helene* as the CBC's introduction to the French language for English speaking children. Gilbert Chenier played Pierre, a playground attendant who told stories and sang songs for his young viewers. Like *Chez Helene*, *The Friendly Giant*, and *Mr. Dressup*, *Mon Ami* aimed to entertain and amuse children as well as deliver education. Pierre introduced a basic French vocabulary and described French Canadian culture in story and song. The series ran at different times of the morning or early afternoon in different parts of the country. Gilbert Chenier died in September 1975.

Monday Night Special

Mon 10:00-11:00 p.m., 26 Jun-25 Sep 1961

On Monday nights in summer 1961, the network aired an eclectic selection of one hour programs. The series included documentary profiles, interviews, drama, and dance produced by the CBC, the National Film Board, and the BBC. The series started with a Camera Canada (q.v.) documentary on Upper Canada Village, the replica of an early Canadian settlement near Cornwall, Ontario. Subsequent Camera Canada presentations profiled the Banff School of Fine Arts and Newfoundland. The National Film Board contributed two films from the Comparisons series (q.v.): *Courtship And Marriage* and *Of Sport And Men*. The documentaries, *Goom Sahn (A Portrait Of A Chinese Community)* and *Man Against Nature*, came from Vancouver. The series included a ninety minute special presentation of the CBC show, *A Case For The Court* (q.v.). A BBC program, *After Supper*, featured Peter Ustinov in conversation with three interviewers. Dramatic productions included a BBC adaptation of a Schiller play and the CBC production of Joseph Schull's play, *The Long Night*. The series also

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ship; and Six War Years, based on Barry Broadfoot's oral history, originally produced for the CBC series, Performance (q.v.). The second show concerned women writers in Canada. It included a documentary drama, Lucy Maud Montgomery: The Road To Green Gables; a film about the production of the musical, Anne Of Green Gables; and The Garden And The Cage, a profile of two authors, Gabrielle Roy and Marie-Claire Blais. On the third program, Flight Of The Snows, about the migration of the Canadian snow goose, Man Aloft, a history of aviation, and Whiskey Whiskey Papa, a film about interesting pilots, combined to explore the theme of flight. The final program concerned winter, and included live action from Ottawa's Winterlude festival and the film The Dawson Patrol, about the journey of a NWMP patrol from Fort MacPherson to Dawson City in the winter of 1910.

Montreal Pop Concerts

Sat 1:00-2:00 p.m., 12 Jul-23 Aug 1969

For eight weeks in the summer of 1969, the network presented concerts by the Montreal Symphony Orchestra from Salle de Wilfred Pelletier at Place des Arts. The first four one hour programs were produced by Jean-Yves Landry and the last four by Pierre Morin for Radio-Canada. The French network broadcast the programs a few days before the English network. The first program featured operatic selections, with guest conductor Alexander Brott and vocalists Clarice Carson, Richard Verreau, and Robert Savoie. In the second show, Brian Priestman conducted the orchestra in classical selections for the first half, and Claude Leveille sang popular songs while Neil Chotem took the baton to conduct jazz pieces for piano and orchestra for the second. In the third program, Jean Deslauriers conducted, with guest vocalists Claire Gagnier and Yoland Guerard. Boris Brott and Leon Bernier shared conducting duties for the fourth show, which also featured popular singer Ginette Reno. Franz-Paul Decker, the Montreal Symphony's resident conductor, took over for the fifth and sixth shows; the Yvan Landry Jazz Group also performed on the former, and Colette Boky, Perry Price, and Claude Corbeil were featured vocalists on the latter. Conductor Pierre Hetu and vocalists Louise Lebrun, Huguette Tourangeau, Andre Turp, and Claude Corbeil were guests on the seventh show. The series concluded with return engagements by conductors Alexander Brott and Neil Chotem, and a special appearance by chansonnier Gilles Vigneault.

Moods Of Man

Sun 2:00-2:30 p.m., 3 Mar-30 Jun 1968

Jim Johnson and Harry Aoki starred in this musical program produced in Vancouver. Johnson, a singer and guitar player, had emigrated to Canada from St. Louis, Missouri, and taught in Prince George, B.C. Aoki played bass and doubled on harmonica. They had played the local circuit, had a radio show called Wandering, and appeared regularly on the CBC radio program, Parade Of Choirs. Their eight week television series presented a wide range of music, including folk, blues, and classical selections. The initial show, on songs of trouble and hope, included a chain gang song called Long John, a blues called I'm Troubled, and Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring and a Bourree, both by Bach. Subsequent shows used such themes as songs of the loved and loveless, songs for young people, songs of hoboes, railroaders, waywarers, and lonesome wanderers, and songs for Easter.

Johnson and Aoki were backed by Bud Henderson on piano, Ray Moga on guitar, Stan Johnson on bass, and Al Johnson on drums. Johnson directed the choral groups who appeared on the show. Their guests included Eleanor Collins, Ann Mortifee, Doug Parker. During the show's run, the stars kept their day jobs: Johnson as a schoolteacher and Aoki as a systems analyst for B.C. Hydro.

Moonlight Bay

Wed 8:30-9:00 p.m., 26 Jun-18 Sep 1957

A variety show that featured music and songs from "the old days," Moonlight Bay replaced Cross Canada Hit Parade for the summer of 1957. It starred Jack Creley, Carol Starkman, and the Don Wright Singers, with host Bruce Smith, and was produced in Toronto by Stan Harris.

More Stories From Inside Quebec

Tue 10:30-11:00 p.m., 11 Jul-29 Aug 1967

A year after Eight Stories Inside Quebec (q.v.), executive producer Paul Wright and director Dennis Miller followed up with another six half-hour documentaries about Quebec culture for English speaking audiences. The programs

concentrated on young women from rural Quebec who moved to Montreal to build careers; Brother Andre, the founder of Montreal's St. Joseph's Oratory; a young Montreal musician and discotheque owner; and Jean Marchand, Minister of Transport, and Eric Kierans, president of the Quebec Liberal Federation.

Movies With Manings

Sat 7:30-9:00 p.m., 3 Oct 1959-16 Apr 1960

Movies With Manings preceded the hockey broadcast on Saturday nights. Writer Allan Manings introduced a selection of Hollywood feature films from a living room set, occasionally with the help of special guests, such as Manings's later colleague on Flashback, Elwy Yost.

Ms!

Thu 10:00-10:30 p.m., 28 Jun-20 Sep 1973

The CBC had begun production of a talk show called All About Women (q.v.), but adverse reaction to the show's reputed concentration on sex caused the network's head of public affairs, Knowlton Nash, to cancel it before it ever reached the air. The replacement, Ms!, appeared the next summer, and dealt less with sex and more with other issues relating to women. Subjects included cosmetic surgery, abortion, and housewives who leave their homes. The format of the show set a woman and a man in debate. The host of the show was Margo Lane.