

Olympic Films

While the official film of the XIIth Winter Games (Innsbruck 1976), "*White Rock*" produced by Tony Maylam, went on release several months ago, the film of the Montreal Olympic Games, "*Games of the XXIst Olympiad*", was presented in several European cities in April. Produced by the National Film Board of Canada, it manages to recreate the magic of the Games for two hours by concentrating particularly on their human aspect. The producer, Jacques Bobet, defines one of the main aims of this collective work as: "A new hero, man, is to emerge from the athlete's impetus, disillusion and behaviour differences." Thus very many portraits are finely outlined of the athletes, but also the trainers, the assistants and all those who hover in the wings of the Games. "I wanted an intimist film. To follow a few athletes. Catch them in their ordinary behaviour in order to understand them better and try to transmit this feeling to the spectator," states the director, Jean-Claude Labrecque. This famous 28-year-old Quebec director headed a team of 168 persons including 30 cameramen and 23 sound engineers. The sound was recorded live in stereo, thus authentically reconstituting the atmosphere of the Games.