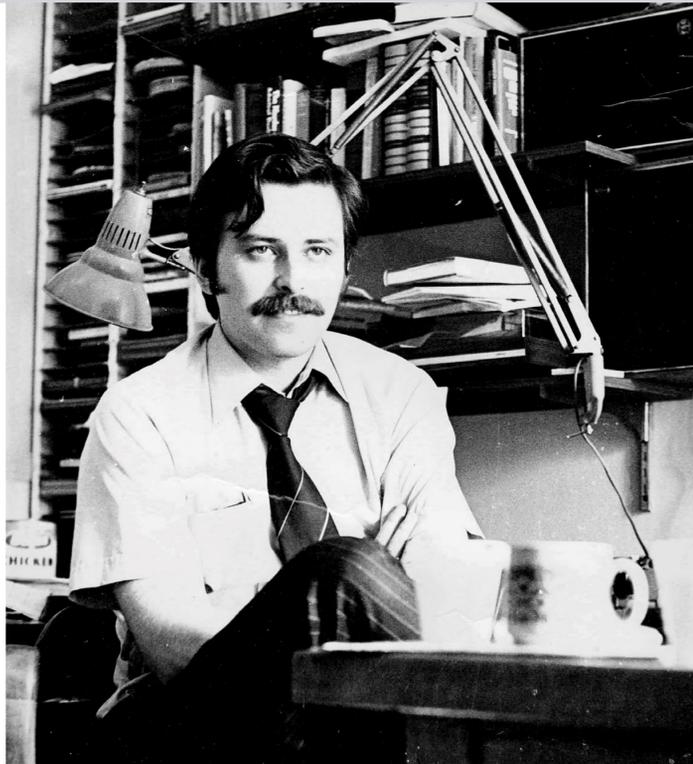


# Mark Starowicz

(b. 1946)

Journalist, producer



In a radio and television career spanning over three decades, journalist and producer Mark Starowicz has transformed the Canadian broadcasting industry and produced some of this country's most influential current affairs and documentary programs. An articulate and outspoken advocate of Canadian culture and identity, he has immeasurably enriched our collective experience and inspired two generations of documentary filmmakers with his vision, ingenuity and dedication.

Born in England to parents of Polish descent, Starowicz began his career in newspaper journalism and joined the current affairs division of Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Radio in 1970, where he received particular acclaim for his reworking of *As It Happens* and his creation of *Sunday Morning*, a three-hour weekend review. In 1979, he made the shift to CBC Television, where he was the architect and executive producer of the hugely successful *The Journal* (1982–92), a current affairs and documentary program whose hosts included such CBC legends as Barbara Frum, Mary Lou Finlay, Peter Kent and Bill Cameron. His other credits include the popular documentary series *The Canadian Experience* as well as *The Greatest Canadian*, *China Rises*, *The Dawn of the Eye* and *The Third Angel*.

The ultimate expression of Starowicz's creativity and passion for Canadian history and culture is his monumental thirty-two-hour documentary series *Canada: A People's History*. Airing over two years (2000–01) in both English and French, the series attracted over fourteen million viewers and won three Gemini Awards, capturing the imagination of Canadians everywhere, and establishing an enduring and inspiring national legacy. It has been translated into seven languages and is used in thousands of schools across Canada; its companion books became bestsellers.

"There's a persistent idea that Canadians aren't interested in their own stories," says Starowicz. "I've made a living proving that isn't true."

Mark Starowicz is currently Executive Director of CBC's Documentary Programming, whose upcoming projects include the series *India Reborn* and *History of World War Two*. He is much in demand internationally as a writer and lecturer on the history and future of broadcast communications.

His honours include: Canadian Journalism Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award (2000) and Governor General's Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement (2006); he was named Canadian Club Canadian of the Year (2000), Officer of the Order of Canada (2004) and Senior Fellow, Massey College; he has eight Gemini Awards to his name, as well as honorary degrees from six Canadian universities.

Photos from top left clockwise:  
• Mark Starowicz in the office of *As It Happens*, 1970 • *Canada: A People's History*, Mark Starowicz, executive producer • *The Greatest Canadian* CBC show • On the location of *Year of the Hunter: The Story of Nanook* – M. Starowicz making polar bear prints with cinematographer Michael Sweeney  
All pictures – CBC archives

POLISH SPIRIT