

Dance

The National Ballet of Canada returned in June 1989 for its fourth tour of Germany, and reinforced its reputation as one of the foremost classical companies in the world. The Royal Winnipeg Ballet visited Germany in June 1990 for the second time, and was praised by critics for its freshness and vitality. RWB First Soloist Evelyn Hart is delighting audiences in Munich as First Soloist with the Bavarian State Ballet. Contemporary Canadian dance companies participated in dance festivals in Germany and presented the faces of modern dance in Canada to discerning and appreciative German audiences. La La La Human Steps astounded dance lovers by their acrobatic and athletic approach to dance, and had as much impact in Germany as they had elsewhere in Europe.

Literature

Led by Atwood, Munro and Ondaatje, Canadian books in translation are beginning to be somewhat more visible in German bookshops. Joan Barfoot, Nicole Brossard, Elly Danica, Robertson Davies, Sylvia Fraser, Graeme Gibson, Aritha van Herk, Deidre Kessler, Norman Levine, Paul Roazen and Stephen Vizinczey have all been published in German in the past three years.

We support marketing efforts with reading tours by authors whose works have been translated. The Canadian Studies programs at various universities are also an important source for the spread of Canadian literature in Germany. Exhibits of Canadian books at universities and libraries also help to make Canadian books better-known.

Theatre

Canadian theatre and Canadian playwrights are largely unknown in Germany. Only a few Canadian plays have been translated into German through the efforts of private individuals, and they are not available in published form. A lone exception was the German production of "Billy Bishop goes to war", which was commercially presented in Cologne in October 1988. International theatre festivals, where plays can be presented in the original language, provide better opportunities for Canadian groups. Thus, Théâtre Repère were a resounding success with their production of "La Trilogie des Dragons" at the Hamburg Summer Theatre Festival in July 1989, and Carbone 14 won enthusiastic acclaim with "Le Dortoir" in Hanover in September 1989 and in Hamburg and Frankfurt in July 1990.