



news release

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ROBERT LEPAGE'S COMPANY RECEIVES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO TOUR THE UNITED KINGDOM AND FRANCE

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that Robert Lepage's new theatre company, *Ex Machina*, was awarded an \$80 000 grant to permit it to tour the United Kingdom and France between August 13 and November 25, 1994. Patrick Gagnon, Member of Parliament for Bonaventure-Magdalen Islands, presented the cheque to Mr. Lepage in Quebec City. The *Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec* is also contributing to this tour.

"The success of Mr. Lepage's productions internationally contributes to putting Canada among the countries on the leading edge of artistic creation and innovation," said Mr. Ouellet.

The company will give 39 performances of its new work entitled "*Les Sept Branches de l'estuaire en delta de la Rivière Ota*." Starting with a commemoration of Hiroshima, this play paints an impressionistic picture of the creative forces that shape our era.

During its tour, *Ex Machina* will appear at two very famous festivals: the Edinburgh Festival and the Paris Fall Festival. The company will also perform in Glasgow, Manchester and London.

Funding for this initiative was provided for in the February 1994 federal budget and is therefore built into the existing fiscal framework.

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