

News of the arts

Les Grands Ballets tours U.S.

Les Grands Ballets Canadiens are touring 28 cities in 14 eastern U.S. states.

The company will present ten ballets during the tour, five of them by the company's two resident choreographers, Fernand Nault and Brian Macdonald. Three ballets are set to music arranged or written by Canadian composers Murray Schafer, Harry Friedman and Gilles Vigneault.

Award for Australian writer

A reporter for the *Canberra Times* has been named the winner of the Canadian award for journalistic merit presented by the Canadian High Commission and the National Press Club in Canberra.

Bruce Juddery, who compiled a number of articles on the Canadian political scene, received the national award given to the Australian journalist judged highest in over-all excellence in reporting on international affairs in the Pacific region.

Mr. Juddery will tour Canada as the guest of the Canadian Government. At a luncheon hosted by the National Press Club in Canberra, Canadian High Commissioner J. Alan Beesley gave him a Canadian soapstone carving.

Department exhibits photographs

Public Works Canada, 1857-1975, featuring illustrations of the department's use of photography for its projects from coast to coast, was exhibited recently at the Public Archives in Ottawa.

During the past century, the Department of Public Works has made continuous use of photography in the planning, design and construction of public buildings, wharves, piers, roads, and bridges, and in the improvement of harbours and navigable channels across Canada.

As early as March 1857, Public Works officials resorted to the new medium for documentary evidence; Robert Milne, a Hamilton photographer, was instructed to take views of the Desjardins Canal bridge disaster. By 1859 departmental staff were using a camera to reproduce original plans and drawings. Several photographers were contracted to document construction of the new Parliament Buildings in Ottawa. One of these, Samuel McLaughlin, in

September 1861 was appointed "Government photographer" for the department. He established the department's internal photographic services which still exist today. Samuel McLaughlin and his successors produced tens of thousands of negatives, prints, blueprints and photographic reproductions to meet departmental needs.

Photography has served as a means of recording the course of construction, the extent of progress or problems, the successful completion of projects, the need for repair or renewal, the evidence of departmental resources and activities. It has served as the department's tool for planning and executing its work and the means of recording its achievements and challenges.

National Arts Centre — first decade exhibition

A special exhibition of some 50 posters and costume designs from the National Arts Centre's (NAC) collection was held recently as part of the Centre's tenth anniversary celebrations.

The special exhibition was "a retrospective view of the Centre's first decade of work, as seen through the eyes of our designers," said Donald MacSween, NAC's director general.

Included in the exhibition were costume designs by François Barbeau, Susan Benson, Brian Jackson, Michael Eagan, Maxine Graham, Gyshlaine Ouellet, Michael Stennett and John Fer-

guson. The posters chosen included works by Claude Alex Béique, Couthuran et amis, Ken Dallison, Tim Forbes, Carlos Marchiori, The Design Workshop and Vittorio.

The Centre has commissioned a commemorative poster to be designed, symbolizing the celebration of the performing arts. It uses the eye of an actor's mask as the focal point and, through the combination of five colours, relates to each of the performing arts. The poster is to be printed in two limited editions, one of which will be a collector's edition signed by the artist.



Some of the posters displayed at the National Arts Centre.