

## Major European dance tour for ballet company

The National Ballet of Canada is currently performing on a major ten-city tour of Europe. Eurotour '85, which opened on May 13 in Luxembourg, will continue in Berlin, Ludwigshafen, Leverkusen, Weisbaden, Zurich and Stuttgart in Germany, as well as Munich, Milan and Amsterdam.

The tour is being sponsored by the federal Department of External Affairs and the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture. Performances in a number of cities are being sponsored by several major corporations.

### Festival performance

In Weisbaden, the National Ballet will perform as part of the Weisbaden Festival, which is over 50-years old and considered one of the top international summer programs in Europe. The performances there on May 25 and 26 will mark the first time a Canadian group has been asked to participate.

The National Ballet will also be making their debut performances in Zurich as part of the Zurich June Festival in the newly restored opera house; in the Munich Opera House, June 6 and 7; and seven performances in Milan, where they are being presented by Teatra alla Scala at the restored nineteenth-century theatre, Teatro Lirico.

Eurotour '85 concludes in Amsterdam June 21 and 22 where, for the second time, the National Ballet will perform as part of the annual Holland Festival. This year the festival salutes Canada and features some 20 appearances by Canadian performers, with the National Ballet's performances being one of the major attractions.



Andrew Oxenham

Gizella Witkowsky as the Queen of the Dryads in the National Ballet's production of *Don Quixote*.

The repertoire for Eurotour '85 includes *Don Quixote*, choreographed by Nicholas Beriozoff and newly designed by Desmond Heeley, plus programs of one-act ballets consisting of Constantin Patsalas' *L'île inconnue* and *Canciones*, Glen Tetley's *Sphinx*, John McFall's *Components*, Kenneth MacMillan's *Elite Syncopations* and Terry Westmoreland's new staging of *Raymonda Act III*.

The new production of *Don Quixote* will be part of the National Ballet's 1985-86 season, November 6-10 at Toronto's O'Keefe

### European Itinerary

Luxembourg	May 13-14
Berlin	May 17-18
Ludwigshafen	May 20-21
Leverkusen (Cologne)	May 22-23
Wiesbaden	May 25-26
Zurich	May 28-29
Stuttgart	June 2-3
Munich	June 6-7
Milan	June 11-18
Amsterdam	June 21-22

Centre. Guest artists Cynthia Gregory and Fernando Bujones from American Ballet Theatre will dance the roles of Kitri and Basilio for two performances. Most of the one-act ballets slated for the European tour, plus John Cranko's *Onegin* will also will be featured in the regular season in November.

### New season: new works

Erik Bruhn, artistic director of the company, also announced that the National Ballet Company has commissioned two new works for the 1985-86 season. On February 19, 1986, a work by Glen Tetley will make its world premiere. Since the work is still in progress, no details have as yet been revealed about it.

On April 30, 1986, the company will perform a program of assorted one-act ballets featuring the debut of an untitled work by Toronto-based choreographer Danny Grossman.

During February, the company will present the popular *La fille mal gardée*. *Swan Lake* will conclude the 1985-86 season, running from May 7-11, 1986.

## Award for Regina writer

Geoffrey Ursell of Regina has won the ninth annual Books in Canada Award from the national book-review magazine, for a first novel with *Perdue: Or How the West Was Lost*, published by Macmillan of Canada. He received a prize of \$1 000 for the best Canadian English-language novel of 1984.

*Perdue: Or How the West Was Lost* was one of six finalists. Other finalists were *Country of the Heart* by Sharon Butala, *Precious* by Douglas H. Glover, *Dazzled* by John Gray, *I Hear the Reaper's Song* by Sara Stambaugh and *The Salvation of Yasch Siemens* by Armin Wiebe.

Mr. Ursell was born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, in 1943. He has also written a number of plays including *The Running Of The Deer* and a book of poetry entitled *Trap Lines*.

## Successful Netherlands tour

The Elmer Iseler Singers recently returned from a successful three-week tour of the Netherlands, where one of their all-Canadian concerts was described as "a triumph of perfection" by The Hague *Courant* newspaper.

During the tour, part of a cultural exchange arranged by the Department of External Affairs, the Elmer Iseler Singers were accompanied by pianist Lydia Adams and oboist Lawrence Cherney. They performed works by Healey Willan, Oskar Marowetz, Harry Freedman, R. Murray Schafer, Harry Somers and Derek Holman.

As part of the cultural exchange, the Netherlands Chamber Choir performed at the Toronto International Festival last June.

The Iseler Singers performed at the Tri-Bach festival in Alberta in April.

## Festival of jazz in Toronto

A major new jazz event will be held in Toronto, June 18-22. Plans for the Toronto International Jazz Festival were announced by the organizer, Daniel G. Gugula of Festival Plus Concerts Inc.

The festival will be mounted on 14 stages including Roy Thomson Hall, the Metro Convention Centre Theatre and six Queen Street West night clubs. The Art Gallery of Ontario will present a contemporary Canadian jazz program, while a film series will be screened at the Bloor Cinema, and a closing dinner and dance, headlined by the big bands of Lionel Hampton and Jim Galloway, will be held at the Sheraton Centre. Other festival bookings are Oscar Peterson, appearing with Rob McConnell and Boss Brass, Makoto Ozone, and an all-star band led by Michel Petruccianni and Freddie Hubbard.