

**Grants allotted by Canada Council
from April 1, 1980
to March 31, 1981**

Dance	5 619 000
Music	10 972 000
Theatre	10 569 000
Touring Office	1 961 000
Visual arts, film & video	7 303 000
Writing and publishing	7 027 000
Explorations	1 425 000

adian artists and rents and displays the works in everyday environments. It is the largest collection of contemporary Canadian art in the world encompassing more than 10 000 works by 1 100 artists with more than two-thirds of the collection currently being rented or loaned. Recently an Art Bank Gallery and Visual Arts Resource Centre was opened in Ottawa to allow for greater public exposure to the collection.

The Touring Office, established by the council in 1973, not only helps defray the costs of touring for individual artists but also helps to promote tours by providing information, advice and services to artists, managers, impresarios and promoters.

A unique council program, the Canadian Explorations Program, is not designed primarily for professional artists but for any individual, group or organization with a well-conceived project which promises to contribute to the development of Canada's cultural knowledge and development.

The council was created as an independent agency responsible for its own policies and grant decisions. A report is made each year to Parliament through the minister responsible (now the Minister of Communications) on its expenditures and activities, but the board of the council still retains the ultimate authority in establishing its programs and awarding its grants.

The Canada Council was not the first organization established to encourage the arts in Canada, it was preceded by an arts council in the province of Saskatchewan and another in the city of Montreal. Now every province has either an arts council or arts authority and many municipalities have organizations or at least contribute financially. The private sector too, in recent years has become more financially supportive of the Canadian artistic community.

vide assistance to groups presenting dance and projects by professional choreographers, who function outside a company.

Though the council provided a few grants to writers in its first year and supported a few periodicals, it did not provide extensive support to these disciplines until the early 1970s when it created a substantial program of assistance to book publishers, initiated support for translations, and created new literary prizes for writers. Currently over 125 publishing houses in all provinces receive council support, as do more than 70 periodicals in literature, the visual and performing arts and the children's field. The council's most recent initiatives in these disciplines include programs and prizes to make Canadian writing better known internationally.

Visual arts receive large grants

Little assistance was given to painters, sculptors and graphic artists or to galleries by the council until the 1960s when support for the visual arts grew to over 40 per cent of the council's budget. Since the 1970s aid to the visual arts has been extended to include film and video projects, museums, print workshops and special projects like the visiting artists program and the artists-in-residence program.

The Art Bank, opened in 1972, is also funded by the council. The Art Bank buys the works of contemporary Can-

Canada and receive funding from the council, existed and the support has been extended from classical opera companies to experimental companies like Toronto's Co-opera Company and the COMUS Music Theatre which dedicate new theatrical works to opera. Grants are also provided for the commissioning of new works by Canadian composers and for assisting Canadian record producers.

More companies receive help

Beginning in 1957 with grants to a few professional theatre companies — the Stratford Shakespearean Festival, the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde and Canadian Players Limited — the council now supports 168 theatre companies across the country. Well-established companies receive operating grants while newer companies receive grants for individual projects and workshop productions. The council has also provided assistance to the National Theatre School since the school's founding.

In dance, the council supports classical ballet and modern dance and expressions of these two forms. In addition to Canada's three major ballet companies who have received support from the outset — the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Company, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens and the National Ballet of Canada — grants are given to more than 20 other professional companies, three professional training schools and independent choreographers. Two recently established programs also pro-



The Anna Wyman Dance Theatre appears in the Gala film tribute to the council. The company has received funding from the council this year for touring.

Rodney Polden