

enchant Britain



Les Grands Ballets
Canadiens production of
Findings.

and John Butler to create works for the company.

Nault and Macdonald remain resident choreographers, as does James Kudelka, who came from The National Ballet of Canada. In Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Kudelka saw wide scope to develop his creative energy as a choreographer and dancer. Today, the 30-year-old Kudelka is becoming one of the brightest lights of choreographic genius in the dance world. His ballet *In Paradisum* has hypnotised audiences on three continents. Last year, Kudelka took Athens by storm when Les Grands

performed his ballet *Dracula* as part of the International Festival at the Herod Atticus Theatre.

Along with Kudelka's works, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens has welcomed contributions from other members of the new generation of Canadian choreographers such as Linda Rabin, Judith Marcuse and Christopher House. The distinctly Canadian identity of the company is also reflected in the use of works by composers such as R Murray Schafer, Roger Matton, Harry Freedman and Michael J Baker.

In 1985, Les Grands came under the guidance of Linda Stearns and Jeanne Renaud as co-artistic directors. A native of Toronto, Linda Stearns has been with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens since 1961, when she joined the company as a dancer. Ms Stearns is well-known for her expert knowledge of the works of many classical and contemporary choreographers, especially Balanchine. His ballet, *Agon*, was danced for the first time by Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in a brilliant performance at Montreal's Place des Arts.

Madame Renaud has been a major figure on the Canadian and Quebec dance scenes for many years. Founder and director of the Groupe de la Place Royale, she has also furthered the cause of dance in Canada through her work for The Canada Council and le Ministère des Affaires culturelles.

Together, these dynamic women are committed to the pursuit of excellence, the development of creativity and the exploration of innovation — the very essence of Les Grands Ballets Canadiens. ♦

UK investment in Canada approaching £5 billion

It is almost exactly two years since the federal government set up Investment Canada with the specific purpose of increasing investment in Canada and attracting higher levels of foreign involvement in the Canadian economy.

Undoubtedly, Investment Canada has been a success — certainly as far as investment from the UK is concerned. From the time it opened for business on June 30, 1985, to the end of its fiscal year on March 31, 1987, there have been 44 new investments in Canada by UK companies and 129 acquisitions.

It is difficult to place a precise figure on the current total of UK investment in Canada (the most recent figures tend to be about two years old). However, best estimates from Investment Canada place the current total at close to £5 billion.

Latest figures from Statistics Canada show that the book value of UK investments in Canada was £3.9 billion at the end of 1985. Since then, there have been a number of major new investments announced. Among them: Allied Lyons 51% purchase of Hiram Walker; Lloyds takeover of the Continental Bank; British Telecom's acquisition of Mitel; and so on.

Monitoring of these (and other) investments shows that, in 1986, the net flow of direct investment from the UK into Canada was some £750 million. This is money that actually came from the UK (as opposed to being raised in Canada) for the purpose of acquisitions, expansions and new investments.

Adding this sum to the Statistics Canada estimate of book value, and then allowing for retained earnings and some other investments that have not been tracked by Investment Canada, produces that estimated total of about £5 billion.

As an Investment Canada spokesman says in Ottawa, 'If we have not yet reached the £5 billion figure, we are certainly closing in on it fast.' ♦

Canada tops poll as most trusted country

Canada, it seems, is the one country in the world that is most trusted by a majority of Britons to play fair in any trade or business deal.

This fact came to light in a Gallup poll conducted earlier this year. The poll was primarily designed to test British attitudes towards Japan as a trading partner, but other countries were included in the survey.

Canada came an easy top of the poll, with 42% of Britons trusting it most in terms of trade — almost double the US figure of 24%.

Other scores were: Australia 39%, West Germany 23%, France 8%, and Italy 5%.

Bottom of the poll was South Africa with 3%. As for Japan, the real object of the poll, it did not fare much better; it scored just 4%.