

Bruhn new artistic chief of the National Ballet of Canada



A choreographer and teacher who, in his prime, was considered to be one of the finest dancers of the century, has been named artistic director of the National Ballet of Canada.

Erik Bruhn, 53, will take up his new full-time position on a three-year contract in July. He has been associated with the National Ballet as a choreographer since 1964, and is in demand for guest engagements throughout the world.

National Ballet president John Houlding said that the National Ballet was "excited about his leadership" and looked forward to the new challenges ahead. "For over 25 years, he set the standard of excellence in male dancing," said Mr. Houlding. "From his early appearances with the Royal Danish Ballet,

through his career with American Ballet Theatre, and as a guest artist and consultant in Canada and throughout the world, he has been recognized as a major figure in twentieth century dance."

Mr. Bruhn was recently in Sweden where he prepared his version of *Giselle* for the Swedish National Ballet and was in New York in December setting his version of *La Sylphide* for the American Ballet Theatre.

The National Ballet's repertoire still includes Mr. Bruhn's early production of *La Sylphide* (1964) as well as his *Swan Lake* (1967), *Les Sylphides* (1973) and *Coppelia* (1975).

Celia Franca, founder of the National Ballet said: "...There isn't a better man for the job, in my estimation."

French literary award

Quebec film-maker and novelist Roger Fournier has won the 1982 France-Canada literary prize for his novel *Le Cercle des arènes*.

Fournier, 53, is best known for his book *Moi, mon corps, mon âme*, which was made into a film entitled *Au revoir, à lundi*, starring Miou-Miou and Carole Laure.

The France-Canada prize was established in 1959. Last year's winners were Laurent Mailhot and Pierre Neveu for their *Anthologie de la poésie québécoise des origines à nos jours*.

Norman McLaren receives prize

Norman McLaren, Canada's best known film animator, has been awarded the Albert Tessier Prize, one of six honours in science and the arts given by the government of Quebec.

Mr. McLaren's experimental work in camera techniques, optical printing processes, 3-D film and engraving onto film stock, has made him a legend both in Canada and abroad.

The winner of the Albert Tessier Prize, named in honour of the Quebec film pioneer, receives a crafted silver medalion and a cash award of \$15 000.

Indian art centre in Thunder Bay

The Centre for Indian Art, a national organization, which has a mandate to collect, study and preserve contemporary Indian art, opened in Thunder Bay in October.

The centre is sponsored by the National Museum of Man in Ottawa, the National Native Arts and Crafts Corporation, the Thunder Bay Indian Friendship Centre and the Ontario Native Women's Association.

Museum loan

The decision to build the centre in Thunder Bay was made after the National Museum agreed to loan up to 500 pieces from its collection of contemporary native art to the Thunder Bay National Exhibition Centre in 1980.

It was a long-term loan designed to display works which had been in storage in Ottawa.

"Besides being the geographic centre of Canada, northwestern Ontario is the home of many native artists and the centre of large native populations," said the centre's director Pierre Guevre-mont.

"We thought that Thunder Bay would be an appropriate location for a centre dedicated to their art."



Ken Mowatt's carved and painted Moon Mask, 1973, in Renewal.

The building of the centre was funded by the National Museums Assistance Program, the Wintario Capital Assistance Program, the city of Thunder Bay, local companies Boise Cascade Canada Limited, Campbell Red Lake Mines Limited and Great Lakes Forest Products Limited and by private donations.