



# communiqué

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## CANADA TO BE FEATURED AT HOLLAND FESTIVAL

The Honourable Monique Vézina, Minister for External Relations, announced today that the Government of Canada is providing grants totalling \$425,000 to enable more than 20 groups of Canadian performing artists, visual artists, and writers to participate in the Holland Festival, June 1-30, 1985.

1985 is the 40th anniversary of the liberation of the Netherlands in which Canadian forces played a major role. In the 40 years since 1945, many other links have been forged, including strong cultural ties. Amsterdam in particular is known to Canadians for its museums, art galleries, one of the world's great orchestras, and its innovative theatre and dance. Amsterdam also is known for the Holland Festival--a month-long celebration of the performing, visual and literary arts. The Festival emphasizes contemporary art and artists and specializes in breaking new cultural ground.

Three years ago Canada accepted with great pleasure the official Dutch invitation to feature Canada at the Holland Festival in 1985. The Festival Director has assembled an impressive and exciting program called "The Arts of Canada".

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In music: Comus Music Theatre with a joint production of "RA" by Murray Schafer, the Canadian Electronic Ensemble the Ondes Martenot Ensemble and the Toronto Music Gallery. Furthermore, two Dutch contemporary music groups will play works by Quebec composers Michel-Georges Brégent, Gilles Tremblay and Claude Vivier.

In dance: the National Ballet of Canada, Le Groupe de la Place Royale, the La La La Lock Danseurs, the Karen Jamieson Dance Company, the Judith Marcuse Dance Project Society and the independent choreographer, Marie Chouinard.

In visual arts, including video and performance art: the Western Front with Canadian Shadows; Noel Harding's "theatrical sculpture", "A Silent Place for a Chair to Fall Over"; a series of films and installations by Michael Snow. Other visual arts and video components will include an exhibition of recent Canadian drawing called "10 Aspects", "Contemporary Canadian Holography" and a survey of Canadian video art of the last ten years.

Native artists will be represented in all the disciplines. Projects include: the Museum of Man's exhibition "Challenges", performances by Inuit singers and dancers as well as by Plains Indians, and the Cree story teller, Louis Bird.

Canadian writers will be represented by George Bowering, Nicole Brossard, Madeleine Ouellette-Michalska, Greg Gatenby and the poetry group, the Four Horsemen. Five Amsterdam bookshops will display and sell Canadian books.

On Sunday, June 2, Dutch national television will devote a whole day of prime time to a look at Canadian politics, sciences, education, arts and sports. Dutch newspapers and magazines will be running many features on Canadian contemporary arts and artists.

The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs, the Museum of Man, and the CBC also have cooperated generously in assisting this project.

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