

**SPRING SEASON OTTAWA  
MARCH 20-21  
NAC STUDIO**

**Tickets \$10 - \$5 (matinee March 21)  
Group discounts and rush seats  
available. Drop by the NAC Box Office  
or call Uniticket at 563-1144.**

"And the programme! Why it's downright shocking. It's out to prove that Theatre Ballet can hold its own in departments as diverse as art and entertainment."

*THE GAZETTE, Montreal*

"Last night's energetic two-hour spin ... confirmed the company's reputed vivacity and technical excellence."

*WINNIPEG FREE PRESS*

Theatre Ballet's spring season guarantees an exciting evening for Ottawa audiences with the first National Arts Centre showings of our new, highly acclaimed ballets — **Collage Animé**, **Angular Momentum**, **A Toast**, and **Liberated**.

Created by National Ballet of Canada soloist and choreographer **David Allan**, **Collage Animé** captures both the lively 20th century sparkle as well as the baroque undertones of the score, a piano concerto by Ernest Bloch. Lloyd Dykk of The Vancouver Sun praises Allan's choreography: "The movement all evokes it, with austere formal groupings that fall apart under the spirit of sportiness, the challengingly sustained balances that come out of rapid turns or leaps, and the slightly baggy black and red costumes that billow out in geometric parabolas when the bodies are in revolution."

One of the "hits" of the season, **Angular Momentum**, was created for TBC last summer by Ottawa-born dancer/choreographer **Julie West**. West choreographed the 20-minute ballet without music; then took videotapes of the dance to her frequent collaborator, composer Marc Letourneau, who created a wonder-

fully futuristic-sounding electronic score. The result — a sensational piece which has fired the imagination of critics across Canada: "There is only one constant in **Momentum**: the element of surprise. Just when you think you've become accustomed to some images and movement — wham! along comes another to shake you again", says Linde Howe-Beck of The Gazette. Lloyd Dykk of The Vancouver Sun writes: "Its automaton music begs to be danced, but mechanically. It is sensuous and chaste at the same time with wheeling acrobatics, sharp changes of momentum and beautifully pointed finishing phrases."

Two of TBC's marvellous "high-kicking" dancers — **Emmanuelle Gill-Houpert** and **Timothy Clarkin** — are showcased in **Lawrence Gradus' A Toast**, choreographed to a selection of Broadway music by Leonard Bernstein. Recently presented at TBC's Chinese gala fundraiser, **A Toast** fondly salutes another side of

Gradus' career when he danced for two years with **Ballets: USA**, a jazz ballet company founded in the late fifties by Jerome Robbins, creator and choreographer of **West Side Story**.

**Liberated** is the creation of New York-based choreographer **Lynne Taylor-Corbett**. It takes a humorous look at sexual stereotypes using a musical collage which includes selections from Tom Waits, Vangelis, The Nylons and writer Helen Gurley-Brown.

And **Tribute**, TBC's signature piece, completes the programme. Vintage Gradus, the ballet has been maintained in repertoire since 1981 and recalls the Company's classical roots "in the golden glow of fine contemporary ballet" (*The Gazette, Montreal*)

TBC's Ottawa Season is sure to confirm the Company's growing reputation for performances which combine the art and technical excellence of ballet, and the drama and entertainment of the theatre.



*The Honourable Flora MacDonald greets leader of Southern Lion Dance*

## TBC RINGS IN THE NEW YEAR WITH STYLE

The year of the "hare", a year promising peace and happiness, was brought in with great fanfare at **The Westin Hotel** on Saturday, January 31st as **His Excellency Zhang Wenpu**, the newly arrived Ambassador to Canada of The People's Republic of China; major benefactor **Merrill Lynch Canada Inc.**; and **Theatre Ballet of Canada** came together to produce an evening of sumptuous Chinese cuisine, dynamic dance, and good cheer.

It began with six hundred supporters of the ballet mingling over cocktails in the foyer of The Westin's Confederation Ballroom while a colourful God of Fortune, courtesy of the **Ottawa Chinese Business Association**, passed out red "lucky money" bags and three Chinese scholars transcribed messages into Chinese characters.

The opening of the Ballroom doors, marked by a grand set of red and green Chinese gates coming from the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, was announced by the customary ceremonial lion dance of Southern China, performed with great pomp and pageantry by the **Ottawa Chinese Free Masons**. The guests of honour were then ushered to their tables. They included His Excellency and Mrs. Zhang Wenpu; the Honourable **Flora MacDonald**, Minister of Communications; His Excellency and Mrs. Robert Stephen Laurie; Duff Scott, Deputy Chairman, **Merrill Lynch Canada Inc.** and his wife Betty; Edward B. White, Vice-President (Ottawa), **Merrill Lynch Canada Inc.** and his wife Françoise; Alderman Michael McSweeney; TBC Chairman Timothy Whitehead and his wife Ina; and Gala Co-Chairman Maureen Brodie and Ottawa businessman Bill Shenkman.

The Westin then proceeded to deliver a magnificent 10-course feast, designed and prepared for the occasion by Head Chef **Franz Hoefler** and his wife **Wai Hoefler**. The wine for the evening was Cellar Reserve Superior (white) courtesy of **Andrés Wines**, and **Walleys Limited** provided Peach Tree Schnapps as a digestif.

Dance troupes from Vancouver (**The Goh Ballet**), Toronto (**Chinese Dance Workshop**) and Montreal (Rey Dizon from **Les Grands Ballets Canadiens** and the **Northern Lion Dance**



(l-r) His Excellency & Mrs. Zhang Wenpu, Betty Scott and Duff Scott (Deputy Chairman, Merrill Lynch Canada Inc.)

**Troupe**) as well as Ottawa's own Theatre Ballet of Canada provided the entertainment ranging from traditional Chinese folk dance through bravura classical pas de deux, to TBC's more contemporary style of Ballet. **Emmanuelle Gill-Houpert** and **Timothy Clarkin** dazzled the audience with their exciting rendition of Lawrence Gradus' **A Toast**. **Chan Hon Goh** and **Wei Dong Sheng**, the beautiful young couple from **The Goh Ballet**, danced the **Sleeping Beauty Pas de Deux**, and **Les Grands' Rey Dizon** performed with great style a series of variations from **Don Quixote**.

After the performance, the winners of the top five prizes from the Fortune Cookie Draw were announced: Tom Geiger (**Canadian Pacific AirLines** trip to Shanghai); Edward Cheung (three-month lease on a Jaguar Sovereign from **Jaguar of Ottawa**); Unidentified (ladies' raccoon coat from **Pat Flesher Furs Ltd.**); John Hastings (original leather and suede ensemble from **Dapucci**); and Judie Chan (one-week stay in a luxury **Weight Watchers** spa in Miami).

Other prizes included a **Racquet Power** Gold Single Membership; a CD player from **Saro's Stereo Centres**; gift certificates from **Justine's**, **McIntosh & Watts**, and **Mulligan's Florist**; restaurant vouchers from

**Restaurant 64**, **Summer Palace**, and **Les Saisons**; a weekend courtesy of **The Westin Hotel**; a personal makeover from **Barrett Palmer Models International**; a hairstyling session courtesy of **TAG**; one term of classes from **The School of Dance**; and a dozen prizes from the Chinese community, including ten from the **Ottawa Chinese Business Association**.

The evening finished with **Stevens & Kennedy** who provided stirring dance music until past 1:00 a.m.

It was a truly memorable event, bringing a taste of the Orient to the nation's capital and toasting the spirit of cultural exchange between Canada and China. And numerous people helped make it a success. At the top of our thank-you list is our major benefactor **Merrill Lynch Canada Inc.** and the **Embassy of The People's Republic of China**.

Corporate Tables were purchased by Bristol-Meyers Pharmaceutical Group; Canadair Limited; Control Data Canada Ltd.; Corel Systems Corporation; Digital Equipment of Canada Ltd.; IBM Canada Ltd.; Imperial Oil Limited; Magnus Aerospace Corporation; Merrill Lynch Canada Inc.; Peat Marwick Chartered Accountants; Perez Corporation; Perley-Robertson, Panet, Hill & McDougall; Price Waterhouse; and

The Westin Hotel.

Special thanks are due to Power Corporation of Canada; the National Arts Centre; the Ottawa Congress Centre; Speedy Messenger Service; Parfums Yves Saint Laurent; The Runaround; Stevens & Kennedy; the Ottawa Phoenix Chinese Dance Troupe; Karen Large from Colvin & Co.; Scrim's Florist Ltd.; the cooperative and efficient staff of The Westin Hotel; the Friends of Theatre Ballet; the Gala Committee, including Co-Chairmen Maureen Brodie and Timothy Whitehead, Diana Kirkwood, Carol Gradus, Herman Lam, Sandi Digras, Liz Barrett, Lyon Weidman, Grant Jameson, Samuel C. Allen, W. Alan Backley, and Edward B. White; and TBC staff Lawrence Gradus, Donald MacLean, Gordon Pearson, Gill Cora Smyth, and Gala co-ordinator Katherine Belrose.



Chan Hon Goh from *The Goh Ballet*

The **Chinese New Year Gala** raised over \$40,000. Like all performing arts groups, TBC needs to raise funds each year from the private sector to supplement our box office receipts and the grants we receive from government. The success of the Gala brings the Company within reach of this year's target of \$100,000.

### THEATRE BALLET FIRST

"Applause and hats off to Theatre Ballet of Canada! The Ottawa-based company is the first in Canada to achieve 100% membership in the Dancer Transition Centre. Lawrence Gradus, Artistic Director and member of D.T.C.'s Artistic Resource Committee, recently announced that all of his dancers have joined—in an admirable show of solidarity."

reprinted from *D.T.C. Newsletter*  
December 1986

### PROFILE: DAVID ALLAN

In addition to being an exciting performer and brilliant character dancer, The National Ballet of Canada's David Allan is fast becoming one of the most sought after ballet choreographers in the country. "A wunderkind" said The Vancouver Sun in a recent interview of Allan's ballet, ***Petite Symphonie Concertante***, for Ballet B.C.

Boston-born, Allan was raised in St. Louis, Missouri, where he performed musical comedy with the Muni Opera before winning a scholarship to the National Ballet School in Toronto. Following his graduation, he joined The National Ballet of Canada in 1974 and was promoted to soloist in 1977, earning acclaim for his roles as the King of Mice in ***Nutcracker***, Puck in ***The Dream***, and the Doormouse in Glen Tetley's ballet, ***Alice***.

He created his first ballet, ***Lento***, for the National's 1983 Choreographic Workshop:

"Choreography is something I naturally came upon. At the time, I was looking for something else to enhance my career as a performer. I was starting to become known as a good teacher, and company members at the National were asking me more and more to coach them. I started to work a lot with Veronica (Tennant), and this



David Allan

prompted her to commission a pas de deux for her guest engagement at Ontario Place."

The result — the bravura ***Khatchaturian Pas de Deux*** (danced by Tennant and Serge Lavoie) — was the turning point in Allan's career. Declared *The Globe and Mail*: "David Allan has emerged on the front lines as a choreographer." In just three years, one ballet has led to another with over eleven creations, six of which have entered the National's repertoire.

Words such as fresh, fluent, musical, romantic and stylish are often used to describe Allan's vibrant choreography:

"Music is often, though not always, my first source of inspiration. I like to be able to jump to

different types of things within my ballets as well as where my work as a whole is concerned. I've done ballets with a pop-flavour such as ***Pastel*** to music by Chick Corea, ballets that are dramatic, and others which are simply entertaining."

Recent highlights in Allan's busy life include a tremendously successful Italian tour of an entire programme of his ballets danced by eight of the National's dancers (Summer 1985); the presentation of his solo for Tennant, ***Villanella***, during the National's highly acclaimed New York engagement at the Met (Spring 1986), the creation in one season of ballets for Theatre Ballet of Canada and Ballet B.C.; and the upcoming premiere at the O'Keefe Centre of ***Masada***, commissioned by Erik Bruhn, to a score by Rachmaninoff.

Will we be seeing less of Allan's dancing now that his choreographic career has taken off?

"I still enjoy my dancing. But probably in five to ten years I shall devote myself full time to choreography. I would like to direct my own company."

Ottawa audiences can look forward to David Allan's ***Collage Animé***, a work full of his characteristic dramatic panache, as it opens the NAC programme on March 20 and 21.

## TBC UPDATE

The new year is off to a tremendous start! Here's what we've already accomplished as well as what's going to happen.

On January 9th, the Company was joined by National Ballet of Canada

principals **Frank Augustyn** and **Tomas Schramek** for a sold-out performance at the newly renovated Grand Theatre in Kingston.

From January 12-23, we welcomed charter National Ballet member and

well-known ballet teacher **Earl Kraul**. Over 30 dance teachers from the Ottawa-Hull region visited the TBC Studios during the second half of Mr. Kraul's stay to observe one of his morning classes.

The following week saw us into our Chinese New Year Gala. As well, Trish Armstrong from the Danny Grossman Dance Company came to mount two of Mr. Grossman's pieces — **Inching** and **Triptych**. Both are wonderful additions to the TBC repertoire. **Inching** has already been worked into our matinee programmes on tour with great success and, like **Triptych**, an intensely moving theatre dance, will be premiered in our concert programmes at a later date.

February began with two performance engagements: the first in Brockville at which TBC was joined once again by Augustyn and Schramek; the second in Alfred, New York, where the Company took residence for two and a half days performing at two schools as well as at the University of Alfred.

New York choreographer **Stephanie Skura** then joined us for two weeks to set a piece on four of our Company members. **Going Off** is a fast-paced dance involving multi-directional entrances and exits, close encounters and numerous duets deftly woven with the Skura style that has had critics applauding. Ms. Skura's work will be shown in June at TBC's Choreographic Workshop presentation sponsored by the Ontario Arts Council.

February concluded with a special appearance in Smith's Falls in "Gala of the Arts 1987", a benefit for the Canadian Cancer Society. And March sees the company involved in seven local performances and special events, as well as touring to Sault Ste Marie; Petoskey, Michigan; Salisbury, Connecticut; and St. Mary's, Pennsylvania.

Following a short break in April, TBC will devote its time to creation in preparation for the Choreographic Workshop presentation as well as the Canada Dance Festival in July, an exciting event for dance fans across the country. More news to follow.

## TBC PERFORMS!

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| March 1                      | Guest appearance<br>OTTAWA<br>Lansdowne Park<br>International Women's Week                                     |
| March 3<br>8:00 p.m.         | SAULT STE. MARIE<br>White Pines College  |
| March 5<br>8:00 p.m.         | PETOSKEY, Michigan<br>Petoskey High School Auditorium  |
| March 13<br>1:00 & 8:00 p.m. | SALISBURY, Connecticut<br>Hotchkiss School, Walker Auditorium  |
| March 15<br>3:00 p.m.        | ST. MARY'S, Pennsylvania<br>St. Mary's High School Auditorium  |
| March 19<br>6:00 p.m.        | OTTAWA<br>NAC STUDIO<br>"Set-up" party for TBC members in the patrons', impresarios' and sponsors circles      |
| March 20<br>8:00 p.m.        | OTTAWA<br>NAC STUDIO   |
| March 21<br>2:00 & 8:00 p.m. | OTTAWA<br>NAC STUDIO   |
| March 28<br>8:00 p.m.        | Guest appearance<br>NEPEAN<br>Sir Robert Borden High School  |
| May 8<br>8:00 p.m.           | Guest appearance<br>HULL<br>Maison du Citoyen<br>Benefit performance for<br>l'Academie de Danse de l'Outaouais |
| June 29-July 12              | OTTAWA<br>Canada Dance Festival  |