



Giving the arts a hand

DONORS' CIRCULAR

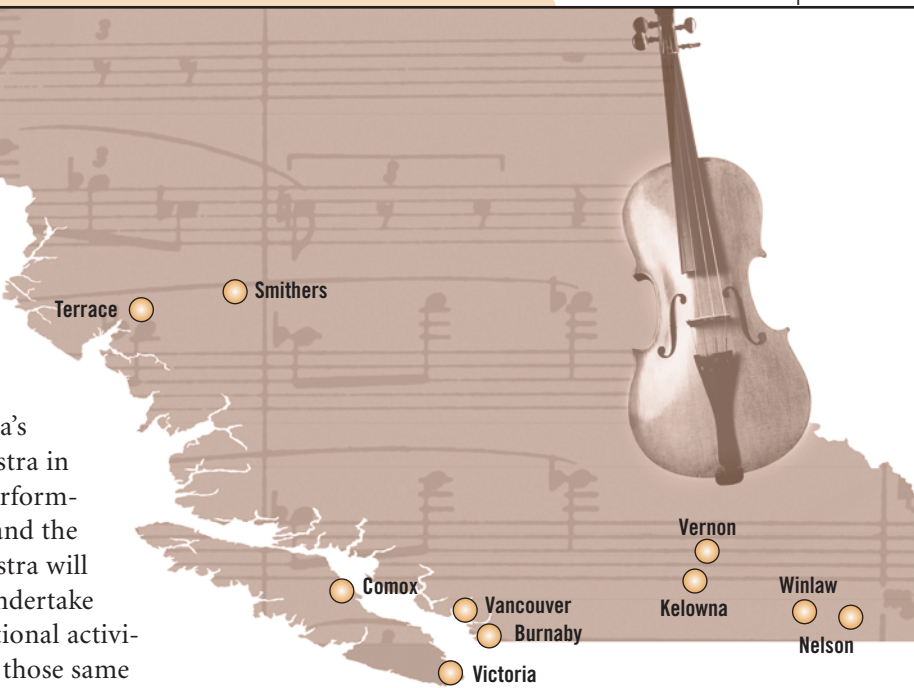
NACO Celebrates 35th Anniversary with West Coast Tour

INSIDE

Message from the CEO	2
Donors' Circle: Trying	3
Pina Bausch at the NAC	3
Maryse Robillard	4
Making Giving Easier	5
Donors' Circle Events	5
Donors' Circle Scholarship	6
Staff Listing	7
Calendar of Events	8

The National Arts Centre Orchestra first assembled to begin rehearsals under conductor Mario Bernardi in late September 1969. The musicians had come from across Canada, some from the United States, and Walter Prystawski had moved his young family from Switzerland to take up his post as concertmaster of the 44-member ensemble. Of the inaugural performance Walter says, "I remember walking out on stage in that magnificent hall, the representative of the National Arts Centre Orchestra musicians, to be greeted by warm and welcoming applause. We played our best and were rewarded with a prolonged, thank-you accolade. That kind of experience, one never forgets." Thirty-five years later, and now under the direction of Pinchas Zukerman, the NAC Orchestra is about to embark on another fabulous season including its 66th tour. Residents of Vancouver, Kelowna, Vernon, Burnaby, Victoria and Comox, British Columbia will have the opportunity to hear

Canada's Orchestra in live performance, and the Orchestra will also undertake educational activities in those same communities as well as in Winlaw, Nelson, Terrace and Smithers. The scope of the education outreach is unparalleled: 27 coaching sessions; 13 masterclasses; 7 school string quartet performances; 6 composition lectures; 5 sectional rehearsals with youth orchestras; 4 school Q&A sessions; 3 teacher clinics; and 1 open rehearsal will take place.



During the BC Tour, the NAC Orchestra will visit the communities of Vancouver, Kelowna, Vernon, Burnaby, Victoria, Comox, Winlaw, Terrace, Smithers and Nelson

Of special note, the Orchestra will hold an entire day of interactive teaching using broadband technology, including a Music Bridge

cont'd on page 2



Message

Message from the NAC Foundation CEO

As you receive this issue of the *Donors' Circular*, you are no doubt looking forward to the first concert, play or dance performance of the National Arts Centre's new season. Perhaps you have tickets to see the Canadian premiere of *Trying*, which will open English Theatre's season this month, a production made possible by the help of our generous Donors' Circle supporters.

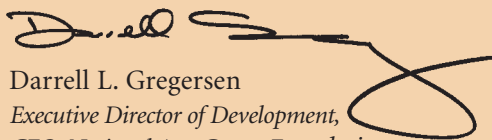
Each year at this time I enjoy reflecting on the amazing breadth and quality of artistry that is presented on our stages every season and the tremendous leadership our artistic teams provide to performing arts organizations across the country. 2004-2005 promises to be a season not to be missed!

I particularly hope to celebrate with you a milestone anniversary of the first performance by our wonderful resident orchestra. For 35 years, NACO has brought the highest standards in orchestral performance to Canadians across the country, with a phenomenal record of

65 national and international tours and more than 3,500 performances in Southam Hall.

As supporters of Canada's National Arts Centre, you know that artistic excellence is not a market commodity. Every world premiere in the Theatre, every astounding new dance troupe that delights us and every symphony conducted by Pinchas Zukerman requires financial support. I commend you as members of our Donors' Circle for understanding how important personal giving is to everything the National Arts Centre does. Thank you for your generosity and your passion for the arts.

Your support will continue to be critical in the future as we restore the National Arts Centre as Canada's pre-eminent showcase for the performing arts.



Darrell L. Gregersen
*Executive Director of Development,
CEO, National Arts Centre Foundation*

cont'd from page 1

between communities, linking school children in B.C. to others in Ottawa and St. John's, making the young participants' experience truly national in scope. Instrumental coaching, a masterclass and a youth and parent forum on the arts complete the November 9 distance learning day.

It will be no surprise to Donors' Circle supporters that Canadians care about the performing arts and want their children to participate. Forty per cent of Canadian parents take their children to attend live performing arts events (Ipsos Reid, Focus on the Arts 2000), believing that music, theatre and dance performances provide people of all ages with intellectual and emotional enrichment that cannot be matched elsewhere. The NAC

Orchestra's phenomenal record of touring is one important way that the National Arts Centre can continue to provide wonderful artistic experiences for young Canadians across the country. The B.C. Tour will rely on significant support from the Donors' Circle. We thank you in advance for your support.

Jane Morris



NACO's Vancouver-born principal flute, Joanna G'froerer, with parents Laverne and Brian G'froerer, Associate Principal Horn with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. NACO last visited B.C. on the 1999 Canada Tour

Donors' Circle Brings *Trying* to the Stage

As a Donors' Circle supporter, this month you have an extra special reason to be proud of your philanthropy. For the first time, the Donors' Circle is being recognized for its gifts to the NAC's English Theatre.

While support of English Theatre is nothing new for individual donors, we are now beginning to highlight projects that have been advanced by the Donors' Circle collectively. Our logo in the English Theatre 2004-2005 Season brochure is just the first of more to come, and we are thrilled to have you, our donors, to thank.

In *Trying*, Canadian playwright Joanna McClelland Glass uses her own experiences to take us back to 1967. The irascible Judge Francis Biddle, Attorney General of the United States during the Roosevelt Administration and Chief Justice for the Nuremberg Trials, is faced with yet another new secretary... a plain-spoken young woman from Saskatchewan.

Under Artistic Director Marti Maraden, the National Arts Centre's English Theatre has been pivotal in the advancement of Canadian plays and playwrights. Thanks to donor support, we are leading the way nationally with the tremendously successful *On the Verge* festival which helps playwrights polish works that are not quite ready for production.

Through the 2002 production of Stephen Massicotte's *Mary's Wedding*, the Wingfield plays by Dan Needles (who was recently honoured with the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour), last season's presentation of the acclaimed *Pélagie*, and now *Trying*, more and more Canadian stories are making their way to the main stage – and more and more Canadians are agreeing that this is their rightful place.

Thank you, Donors' Circle!

Shin Sugino



Paul Soles as Judge Biddle,
Caroline Cave as Sarah

Pina Bausch at the NAC!

In the world of contemporary dance, the name Pina Bausch resounds enormously. Having reached international superstardom, Ms. Bausch is in the desirable position of being able to choose her engagements, and Southam Hall's stage at the NAC is the only one in Canada to have the honour of presenting Pina Bausch Tanztheater Wuppertal in 2004. The exuberantly playful work *Masurca Fogo* runs for two nights only, this November 26 and 27.

Cathy Levy, NAC Dance Producer calls the company undoubtedly the world's finest contemporary dance-theatre group. "This is the company's first performance in Canada since their last appearance at the NAC in 1985. Bringing them here has long been a dream of mine - and now it's a dream come true!"

Donors' Circle supporters can be very proud to have played a role in bringing such a legend in the dance world to the National Arts Centre. Every donation earmarked for artistic excellence further advances the efforts of our artistic directors to present performances of the calibre our audiences deserve.

For more information about supporting the pursuit of artistic excellence at the National Arts Centre, please contact the Donors' Circle at (613) 947-7000, ext. 315, or annualfund@nac-cna.ca.

Donor Profile:

Maryse Robillard

For many years, Maryse Robillard has been enchanted by the National Arts Centre's artistic excellence. Her fondness for classical music, French theatre,

English theatre as well as opera has made her a passionate champion of the performing arts. It goes without saying that Maryse believes in the transformational power of the performing arts for individuals and society as a whole.

For these reasons, Maryse is a proud donor and volunteer.

Why are you a supporter of the National Arts Centre?

I support the NAC because I have a profound interest in the performing arts and I know how important donor support is in advancing the NAC's mandate. I also feel that donors have an essential role in making the NAC's programming accessible to the student community. With different initiatives such as the Live Rush program or masterclasses, the Foundation is ensuring that students of all ages are awakened to the performing arts.

What motivates you to volunteer at the NAC?

I started volunteering because I had a bit of free time and I wanted to be an active member of my community. I've been attending the NAC since 1970 and then

one day I thought it would be great to be part of the NAC family by becoming a volunteer. This has given me the opportunity to make new friends and to enjoy the overall atmosphere here at the NAC.

Have you ever played an instrument or studied acting or dance?

I've always loved the piano. I started playing when I was six years old and eventually continued my training at l'Université Laval in Québec City where I obtained my undergraduate diploma in music. Even though my love for playing has not changed, I have to admit that I've been too busy to practice.

Patrick Latreille

As well as being a donor, Maryse is a vital part of the Donors' Circle office – it is Maryse who assembles all donor thank you packages.



Make Maryse Your Model

For many donors like Maryse Robillard, pride in contributing to the National Arts Centre Foundation stems from our many artistic outreach programmes. Thanks to the support of our generous donors, the NAC has been able to expand its youth and education programs, in particular the Young Artists Programme, the Conductors Programme and the very popular educational web site *ArtsAlive.ca*.

What's more, we've extended the discount ticket programme, "Live Rush", for students in Calgary. These many programmes offer students valuable exposure to the performing arts and give talented high school students the opportunity to participate in masterclasses. With this in mind, we invite you to contribute to the Donors' Circle fundraising campaign to support these arts education initiatives.

Your generosity will enable us to demonstrate the value of communication and artistic expression to a greater number of young people. Please help us make this simple dream a marvelous reality.

2004-2005 Donors' Circle Events

Another summer has come and gone and another season of entertaining donor events is upon us. By now you should have received your Donors' Circle Event Calendar and reply form in the mail or by e-mail, and we hope you are as thrilled as we are with the Open Rehearsals and Previews being presented.

Highlights include a Meet the Artist Extravaganza in December with Jean-Louis Roux, famed Quebec stage, television and film actor, and star of *Le Procès*.

Dance connoisseurs will want to mark February 22nd on their calendars, as Vancouver's The Holy Body Tattoo opens the dress rehearsal of their world premiere of *monumental* to donors. This initiative of the National Arts Centre's Youth Commission for Dance, now in the second of three years, is funded significantly through your support of the Donors Circle.

Another project made possible through Donors' Circle support is the NAC English Theatre production of Joanna McClelland Glass' *Trying* – a play inspired by the Saskatchewan playwright's own experience. We are pleased to offer a special Donors' Circle Preview of the Canadian premiere of *Trying*, on Tuesday, September 14, 2004.

Next spring, watch for your invitations to the final Donors' Circle event of the season – a Meet the Artist Extravaganza with our own Maestro Pinchas Zukerman and renowned pianist (and good friend of the Maestro) Yefim Bronfman.

If you have not yet received your Donors' Circle Event Calendar, please contact the Annual Fund Office at (613) 947 7000, ext. 315, or view the calendar at <www.nac-cna.ca/donors>.

Sara Gustar



Making Giving Easier

Online Giving

Did you know that you can make a donation to the National Arts Centre at any time, day or night? It is as simple as visiting the Donors' Circle web site at <www.nac-cna.ca/donors>. After reading about how your support can create a lasting impact, you can enter a secure area and complete your donation. We will take care of the rest.

While on our Web site you will notice that you can RSVP for Open Rehearsals, read recent issues of the *Donors' Circular* and complete a donor survey as well. We continue to add new elements to our site to build a stronger relationship with our donors who find this convenient. Of course you can continue to call us in the Annual Fund Office as well at (613) 947-7000, ext. 315!

Three-time Academy Award-winning Canadian composer Howard Shore chats with his cousin, Marla and her son, Lev, at the Meet the Artist Extravaganza this past July.

Donors' Circular - electronically!

By popular demand, the Donors' Circular is now available electronically! Direct your browser to the Donors' Circle section of the National Arts Centre Web site and select from a number of recent issues. Or, sign up to receive your Donors' Circular via e-mail, and be among the first to receive each issue.

Donors can also register to receive invitations to donor events, tax receipts and other communications electronically. You can ensure your gift has the maximum impact on artistic excellence, youth and education, and community programming by minimizing mailing costs. Be sure to complete our questionnaire online at <www.nac-cna.ca/donors>.

The security of your personal information is important to us. The National Arts Centre and its Foundation have a policy not to release donor information, including your e-mail address, to any other organization, or even within the NAC, without your consent. You can unsubscribe from the Donors' Circle e-mail list at any time.



Violist Carolyn Blackwell, and bassists Matthew Perrin and Raphael McNabney (seen here with NAC Foundation CEO Darrell Gregersen and Chair Guy Pratte) were proud to receive Donors' Circle Scholarships to the NAC Summer Music Institute.

Donors' Circle Scholarships

This past summer the NAC's Summer Music Institute was pleased to offer Donors' Circle Scholarships to three aspiring young musicians. Here are their words of thanks to you.

Dear Members of the NAC Donors' Circle,
I would like to thank you for your generosity and support of the Young Artists Program. As a first year viola student, I found the program to be very enjoyable and inspirational. The faculty here is world class and I have come away from my lessons with pages and pages of ideas on how to improve my playing. The students in this program are unbelievably friendly and great to work with. This has been a wonderful experience and I look forward to auditioning for the program next year. Thank you again for your support and generosity. Without you, the Young Artists Program would not be possible.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Blackwell

Circle of Donors,

Raphaël and I really cannot begin to express the gratitude we have for your organisation. Your generous contribution provided us with the three most informative, enjoyable, and memorable weeks of our young careers thus far.

Sincerely,

Matthew Perrin and
Raphael McNabney

*Have you
ever wondered...*

...how many of our original donors are still in the Donors' Circle?

While the name "Donors' Circle" is only a few years old, the NAC's annual giving club has been in existence for ten years. The Donors' Circle is truly fortunate to have loyal support from more than 6,800 donors, and we are especially pleased to recognize the following donors who have counted the NAC in their philanthropic giving every year since 1993.

Anonymous (5)

Dr. Peter Baranick and
Dr. Susan Robertson

Keith and Irena Bell

Mrs. Jean Bird

Mrs. Audrey D. Campbell

Mr. Donald Chennette

Barbara Dewar

Isobel Fawthrop

Don and Margo Ford

Ms Gillian Foss

Pauline E. Gravel

Nancy Ham

Mrs. E. Patricia Hood

Margaret E. Kells

Ronald Kelly

Roger Lapointe

Mrs. Wendy LeBlanc

The McKinlays: Kenneth, Ronald
and Jill

Donald and Asalyn Meakin

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Merrick

Florence A. Moore

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Flora E. Patterson

Mr. William B. Peacock

Elizabeth L. Pitney

Aline Pyne

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Coralie Sheehan

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Catharine E. Sullivan

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Anne Ward and Gordon McDonald

Allan Wheatley

L. L. Wickett

Don and Billy Wiles

NAC Foundation

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Jody Houlahan

Senior Development Officer,
Annual Fund

Leslie A. Turcotte

Senior Development Officer,
Major Gifts

Julie Byczynski

Development Officer

Patrick Latreille

Donors' Circle Coordinator

Bronwen Dearlove

Donors' Circle Coordinator

Calendar of Events

DATE & TIME	EVENT	INVITATION ONLY	PRODUCER'S CIRCLE	DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE	MAESTRO'S CIRCLE	PLAYRIGHT'S CIRCLE	BENE-FACTORS	SUSTAINERS	ASSOCIATES	EVERYONE
September 14, 2004 6:45 p.m.	English Theatre Preview: <i>Trying</i> Pre-performance Chat: Salon • Performance: Theatre									
September 26, 2004 11:00 a.m.	NAC Orchestra Association: Opening Breakfast Salon \$10 for non-NACOA members									
October 2, 2004 Time TBC	National Arts Centre Annual Public Meeting Location: Salon (TBC)									
October 2, 2004 9:30 a.m.	Roundtable on Public and Private Sector Partnerships in the Performing Arts									
October 2, 2004 6:00 p.m.	National Arts Centre Gala Pinchas Zukerman, conductor, Yo-Yo Ma, cello	SOLD OUT!								
October 14, 2004	Meet the Artists Extravaganza: Crystal Pite and Richard Siegal of Kidd Pivot Panorama Room									
October 20, 2004 9:30 a.m.	NACO Open Rehearsal: <i>Ovation Series</i> Pinchas Zukerman, conductor, Amanda Forsyth, cello Pre-rehearsal Chat: Salon • Rehearsal: Southam Hall									
November 6, 2004 1:00 p.m.	Dress Rehearsal: Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Southam Hall									
November 24, 2004 6:00 p.m.	NAC Foundation Report to our Donors RSVP Required									
December 9, 2004	Rencontres magistrales : Jean-Louis Roux <i>Le Procès</i> Salle Panorama									
January 14, 2005	Meet The Artists Extravaganza: Marti Maraden & cast of Love's Labour's Lost Panorama Room									
January 27, 2005 1:30 p.m.	Dance Open Rehearsal: <i>Carmina Burana</i> Royal Winnipeg Ballet Pre-rehearsal Chat: Salon • Rehearsal: Southam Hall									
February 7, 2005 7:15 p.m.	English Theatre Preview: <i>Portrait of an Unidentified Man</i> Pre-performance Chat: Salon • Performance: Studio									
February 22, 2005 Time TBC	Dance Open Rehearsal: <i>monumental</i> The Holy Body Tattoo Pre-rehearsal Chat: Salon • Rehearsal: Theatre									
March 17, 2005 2:00 p.m.	Dance Open Rehearsal: <i>Cinderella</i> The National Ballet of Canada Pre-rehearsal Chat: Salon • Rehearsal: Southam Hall									
April 11, 2005 7:15 p.m.	English Theatre Preview: <i>A Woman in Waiting</i> Pre-performance Chat: Salon • Performance: Studio									
April 13, 2005 9:30 a.m.	NACO Open Rehearsal: <i>Audi Signature Series</i> Lawrence Foster, conductor, Jonathan Biss, piano, Pre-rehearsal Chat: Salon • Rehearsal: Southam Hall									
May 31, 2005	Meet the Artists Extravaganza: Pinchas Zukerman & Yefim Bronfman Panorama Room									
June 15, 2005 7:30 a.m.	NACO Open Rehearsal: <i>Bostonian Bravo Series</i> Pinchas Zukerman, conductor & violin Ottawa Choral Society, Choirs of the University of Ottawa Pre-rehearsal Chat: Salon • Rehearsal: Southam Hall									

RSVP
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www.nac-cna.ca/donors or annualfund@nac-cna.ca
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