

Cathy Levy

Producer, Dance Programming

Cathy Levy, who joined the National Arts Centre in autumn 2000, has acquired an enviable reputation throughout the Canadian dance community. She was the Producer of the biennial Canada Dance Festival (CDF) of new Canadian choreography from 1990-2000, and was the Associate Producer from its inauguration in 1987. The CDF, co-produced with the National Arts Centre, takes place in Ottawa and features new works by some forty companies and independents, including several commissions and co-productions, residencies and ancillary activities. From 1992-2000, Ms Levy was also the Dance Programmer for Harbourfront Centre's annual international contemporary dance series, which features contemporary dance companies from around the world, including Europe, Asia, North and South America.

Ms Levy was the 1999 recipient of the Japan Foundation's Uchida Fellowship, which enabled her to learn more about dance and dance companies in Japan. Future collaborations between Japanese and Canadian choreographers are now in development as a result of this fellowship. Her links with Asia were reinforced while working as Performing Arts Coordinator for The Cultural Component of Canada's Year of Asia Pacific (1997).

Ms Levy was the founder and executive director for four years (1988-1992) of DUO (Dance Umbrella of Ontario), a service organization providing administrative and production support to independent choreographers. From 1994 to 1996, Ms. Levy was on contract as the Director of the Vancouver East Cultural Centre (VECC), a multi-purpose performing space for the contemporary arts. She has also coordinated many special projects including the *IMZ Congress* in 1992 in Toronto (for the Vienna-based International Music Centre), *Kodo Drummers* in Vancouver (1989 and 1991) and *Close-up of Japan* in Toronto (1990). Ms Levy has also worked with numerous dance companies, including La La La Human Steps, Karen Jamieson Dance Company, The Kirov Ballet, and Anna Wyman Dance Theatre.

Ms Levy was on the founding committee of Toronto's *Dancers for Life*, an annual fundraising event for AIDS, where she served as co-chair for 5 years (1989-1993). In 1994, she helped

establish and co-chaired Vancouver's *Dancers for Life*. She has also served on many Boards including First Night Toronto, Dance in Canada Association, and the 12 Alexander Street Selection Committee. Ms Levy has been a member of the Dance Advisory Committee of the Canada Council since 1997.

Cathy Levy has served as the Special Events Co-ordinator for the Canada Pavilion during EXPO '86; as Publicity Director with the VECC (1983-1985); as Regional Officer for Dance in Canada (1982-1985); and as Publicity Director of the Anna Wyman Dance Theatre (1980-1983). In 1985, she received a Canada Council grant to train for a year under Producer David White at Dance Theater Workshop in New York City, and in 1991 a second grant enabled her to research and study for four months with major performing arts festivals throughout Europe. Ms. Levy also occasionally contributes to dance journals and newspapers.