

SPRING 2008

Full Circle



Celebrating the 10th Summer Music Institute

We can hardly believe the phenomenal growth of the NAC's Summer Music Institute (SMI) since its inception in the summer of 1999. Nine summers ago, the Young Artist Programme (YAP) – the first branch of the SMI programme – was created, which 10 Canadian students participated. In June 2008, we'll be celebrating the 10th anniversary of SMI, and the programme has grown by leaps and bounds under the vision of Maestro Pinchas Zukerman.

Since 1999, the SMI has grown into a world-renowned magnet for the best young Canadian and international classical artists, providing world-class instruction for especially gifted young musicians, conductors and composers. To date, we have welcomed close to 500 participants from 10 Canadian provinces, and 26 countries around the world.

The excitement generated by the success of the YAP in the early years led to the expansion of SMI which now comprises three educational programmes: the Conductors Programme –

providing a valuable opportunity for orchestral conductors to develop under the expert guidance of accomplished orchestra leaders; the Composers Programme – designed for composers preparing for a professional career in composition; and the original component, the Young Artists Programme.

The Young Artists Programme identifies and fosters young, exceptional musical talent through intensive instruction led by Pinchas Zukerman and an internationally-renowned faculty. This year, 65 highly-talented students from across Canada and around the globe will have the opportunity to take part in two levels of technical study during three and a half weeks in June.

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85 students take part along with 25 faculty and staff in the Summer Music Institute 2007.
Photo: Michel Dozois



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
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message

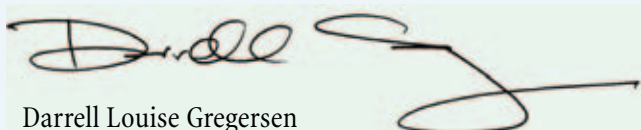
from the CEO of the NAC Foundation

As Canada's National Arts Centre, we strive to spark your imagination, to touch your heart, to challenge your mind...and we have talented artists across the country that help us do that through music, theatre and dance. All of this is possible because of your generous support.

One of the things I love most is having the opportunity to meet and speak with our NAC family of donors at open rehearsal chats, or at intermission during one of our performances. It enables me to really get a sense of what is important to you as a donor, so that we may in turn help you to find fulfillment in your philanthropic endeavors.

Whether you have an interest in the creation of new repertoire, mentoring young artists, producing the classics or a love of all components of the arts, you have made a difference through your contribution. Through the NAC Foundation, you contribute directly to the creation of new classical compositions, to the work of new playwrights, or to new choreographic work for young audiences. Some of you also make it possible for us to host our Summer Music Institute (SMI) for exceptional young musicians, conductors and composers.

Your gifts have great impact on so many integral programmes. When asked about the impact of the NAC Summer Music Institute, Young Composer and recent graduate Vincent Chee-Yung Ho replied, "What we are part of is an 'investment'. It is an investment in the musical culture of our society...I know that one day, when we've gone out and established our careers, we to will be giving back to the community what the NAC has so graciously given to us." We're not talking stocks or bonds...we're talking about inspiring, engaging and building on the future of our Canadian artists at home and abroad. By contributing to the NAC Foundation you're playing a leading role in the development of our artists. And that's what I call an investment...with unlimited growth!



Darrell Louise Gregersen
CEO, National Arts Centre Foundation

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March Break Theatre Workshop

The National Arts Centre English Theatre held two March Break theatre workshops, intensive five-day programs for youth at risk, ages 15 to 19 (held at the NAC) and Quebec English high school students (held at Heritage College, Gatineau).

The NAC program is offered free to participants, in part thanks to the generosity of the Youth Theatre Training Program of Theatre Ontario (funded by the Ontario Arts Council), and the NAC Foundation's National Youth and Education Trust. The Quebec program receives a grant from the Interdepartmental Partnership with the Official Languages Communities (IPOLC).

Working with the playwright in residence, Sharada Eswar and her script in progress, *Abhimanyu*, participants in both programs had an incomparable opportunity to really have an impact on "theatre creation". Because of the nature of Eswar's play, participants also had a unique cultural experience. *Abhimanyu* is a tragic hero in the Hindu epic, *Mahābhārata*. Eswar's script is an adaptation of this epic. Lead instructor Nisha Ahuja also tapped into the expertise of visiting artists Nova Battacharya (choreography) and Suba Shankaran (sound and voice).

The program emphasizes process rather than performance, though that too is an end product. Aspects studied included voice and sound work, breathing, performance, choreography and dance.

Martina Kuska, Education & Outreach Coordinator, English Theatre says the impact on participants is remarkable. In one student's words, "I would recommend it in a second. I was blown away by what I learned."

What do you say about a program that changes kids' lives? To our donors who contribute to this project and many others through the National Youth and Education Trust, we simply say, "Thank you."



Gary Kulesha leads a discussion among the Summer Music Institute young composers along with guest composer John McCabe of London, England.

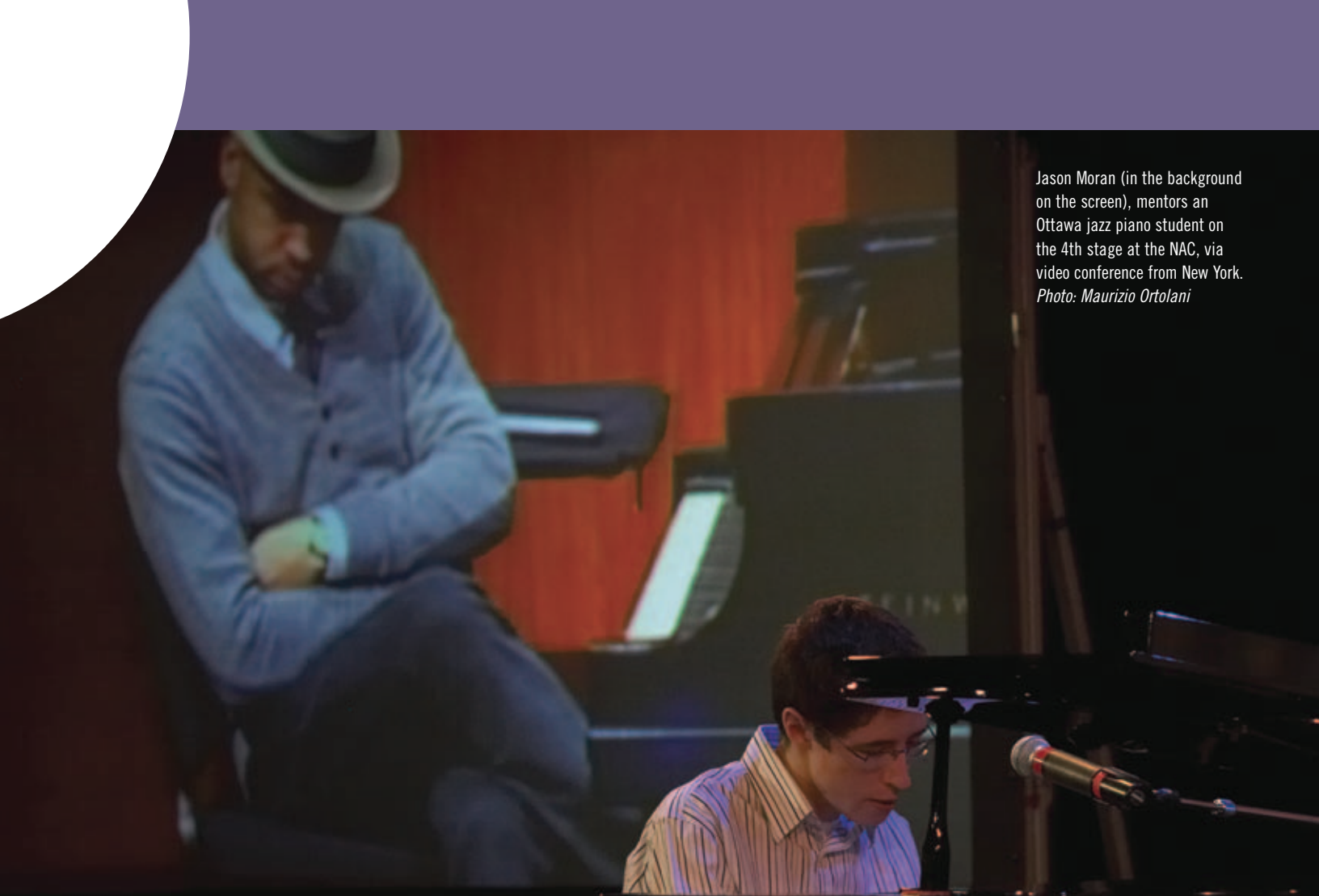
Celebrating the 10th Summer Music Institute, continued from page 1

Exceptional string, wind and piano musicians aspiring to be tomorrow's best classical musicians are invited to apply to this intense and fulfilling programme of study. The YAP offers outstanding private instruction and chamber music coaching, and all students perform in public chamber music concerts and may perform in public masterclasses.

This programme has yielded some outstanding results for young artists. In recent news, two former participants of the National Arts Centre's Summer Music Institute, violinists Daniel Khalikov and JoAnna Farrer, have won positions with the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in New York and the Orchestra of Valencia in Spain, respectively.

We're delighted that the NAC Summer Music Institute has made such a positive impact on the careers of the participants. And with the help of donors like you, we will continue to provide some of most exciting, engaging and diverse programming for young artists in the years to come. We think YAP 2005 participant Reynalíz Herrera Martínez from Mexico said it best, when describing her experience:

"This year I saw magic... I saw wonderful things and lived great experiences that went directly to my heart... and whispered to my thoughts: Come On! Keep walking through that magical road of music and art. I feel grateful... for all you have done for me... and for giving me one of the best years of my life!"



Jason Moran (in the background on the screen), mentors an Ottawa jazz piano student on the 4th stage at the NAC, via video conference from New York.
Photo: Maurizio Ortolani

Manhattan on the *Rideau*

*F*our times a year, the National Arts Centre invites you to experience how the gift of mentorship can extend beyond the National Capital Region -- with the Manhattan on the Rideau broadband videoconference jazz masterclass series.

The NAC, in partnership with Manhattan School of Music, in New York, produces jazz masterclasses connecting leading jazz faculty at the Manhattan School of Music, such as Ted Rosenthal and Kenny Baron, with accomplished music students from Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto and beyond.

Because of your support, the NAC, through the Manhattan on the Rideau series, builds virtual bridges between talented Canadian students and some of the most renowned jazz

musicians in the world," says Maurizio Ortolani, Producer of NAC New Media. "We strongly believe that by sharing their knowledge and experience, they can play a pivotal role in the artistic growth of the young people they mentor, and we're helping making these connections with technology, connections that wouldn't otherwise be possible."

We invite you to witness first hand the kind of impact your gift can have to an emerging artist. The sessions are free and open to the public, and we use the very latest in broadband videoconference technology to connect teachers and students in real time with high fidelity audio and video, and include a question and answer period for which the audience is invited to participate.

Making Giving Easy: Planning Your Gift to the National Arts Centre

As a National Arts Centre donor, you are probably most familiar with annual giving through the Donors' Circle. There is another way to give that can complement your annual contribution to the NAC, and leave a legacy for many years to come: planned giving.

Your valued annual gift supports current needs, such as ensuring artistic excellence on our stages or providing music education programs for children. A planned gift looks to the longer term, and helps ensure that your passion for the performing arts is passed on to future generations.

The most common types of planned gifts are bequests to a charitable cause through a will and gifts of life insurance. A planned gift of life insurance provides a tax benefit on the insurance premiums paid each year. A bequest in your will reduces taxes paid by your estate.

Like annual gifts, planned gifts can be directed to any NAC program and can take many forms, including endowments (which generate income in perpetuity) and scholarships. A planned gift typically offers the opportunity to make a much larger gift than is possible through annual giving, meaning you can have an even greater impact on the performing arts.

Annual support and planned giving are both vitally important to the NAC, as our model of support from government changes. Growth of our planned giving program will be a key element in the future of the National Arts Centre's long-term success.

Making a planned gift to the NAC is surprisingly simple. A bequest involves contacting your lawyer and adding a clause to your will which states your bequest. Purchasing a life insurance policy which names the NAC as the beneficiary or the owner is just as straightforward.

We invite you to learn more about a bequest in your will or a gift of life insurance to the NAC. Please contact Barry Bloom at (613) 947-7000, ext. 314.

She danced her way into his heart

When Ian Henderson first met Suzanne Marineau, he quickly discovered her love of dance. Often triggered by her abundant love of life, she could be found twisting and twirling, expressing her "joie de vivre" through free dance. This was one of the many endearing qualities that captivated Ian's attention and began the dance of his life with his beautiful partner, later to become his wife. They actually met at a dance and according to Ian, "it was love at first dance."

It wasn't long before Ian learned how deep Suzanne's love of dance was. A committed patron of the NAC, she attended 15-20 performances each year. She would especially relish some of the dance festivals presented by the NAC.

After Suzanne lost her battle with cancer about 3 years ago, Ian knew that her legacy must somehow touch on her love of dance.

The Suzanne Marineau Endowment For The Arts was established by Mr. Henderson through the NAC to assist the dance department with its priorities as a tribute to Suzanne's love of dance.

Having overcome the initial grief caused by the loss of his wife, Ian has clearly turned his attention to making a difference for others who have experienced loss. In addition to the NAC Endowment, Ian spends his time actively managing a United Way Memorial Fund in Suzanne's memory. He has also recently completed a certification program in Death and Grief Studies and is currently facilitating bereavement/grief groups in the Ottawa area.

"I would recommend to people to consider an endowment fund to remember a loved one. For me, this is about remembering Suzanne in a way that honours her. This (gift) just seems to hit the target."

If you are interested in learning more about making a legacy donation or establishing an endowment, please contact Barry Bloom at (613) 947-7000, ext. 314.

"For me, this is about remembering Suzanne in a way that honours her."

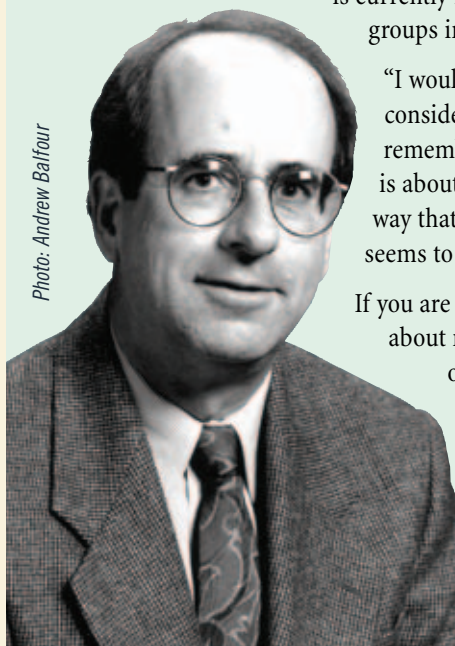


Photo: Andrew Balfour

Shakespeare in the Lobby



Even Queen Elizabeth I
dropped in on the festivities.
Photo: Michel Dozois

The Bard himself would have been proud of the NAC celebrations to mark his 444th birthday. *Shakespeare's Birthday: A Renaissance Fair* took place in the main foyer of the National Arts Centre on April 27th, attracting a crowd of all ages.

An NAC first, it's easy to see why this event appealed to families. It was a highly interactive afternoon featuring everything from artisans, vendors, crafts, puppetry and games to food from the period. It was even complete with birthday cake.

For more seasoned theatre lovers in the crowd, there were excerpts from some of Shakespeare's best-loved plays – *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Caesar* and *As You Like It* performed by professional actors.

Programmed by English Theatre Artistic Director, Peter Hinton and executed and coordinated by Amanda Kellock, Directing Intern at the NAC, and Martina Kuska, Education & Outreach Coordinator, English Theatre the fair dovetails with performances taking place on the NAC stages this season. These include *Macbeth*, as well as period pieces *Death of a Chief*, *Falstaff*, *Shakespeare's Dog* and *And All For Love* which were based on or influenced by Shakespeare. English Theatre's 2007/08 season is dedicated to the classics.

Local artists involved hailed from the following companies to perform for the audience: Rag and Bone Puppet Theatre; A Company of Fools; Ottawa School of Speech and Drama; The Orleans Young Players; Salamander Theatre for Young Audiences; English Speaking Union, and; The University of Ottawa

Each season, English Theatre has much to offer in terms of family programming and events. Check out the exciting lineup for the 2008-09 season at <http://www.nac.ca/en/theatre/index0809.cfm>

Lots of family entertainment was on hand at the Shakespeare's Birthday Renaissance Fair.



Photo: Michel Dozois

Diavolo Dance Theater

helping teachers bring dance to kids

On a typical Wednesday afternoon, you might find Connie St. Louis teaching dance at Canterbury High School. But this fall, she and dozens of other local teachers broke from routine and joined dancers from Diavolo Dance Theater for a dynamic and informative master class.

Master classes bring the expertise of world-class dance artists to local teachers and students. They are presented as part of the National Arts Centre's focus on youth and education and are funded by your contributions. Diavolo's master class was aimed at demonstrating practical movement exercises for teachers to use in their classes. The fun included working in teams, counter balance, and choreography.

Participant Leslie Holmes said "Thank you so much for organizing this worthwhile workshop. I cannot wait to try out some of the activities with my students."

Teaching represents 50% of the dancers' activities at Diavolo Dance Theater, and it's obvious that they love teaching. Said dancer Ken Arata, "I learn so much through teaching. It's a big reason why I'm with Diavolo."

Sixty-five teachers participated in two Diavolo workshops at the NAC. These teachers see the value of getting kids moving through dance. "It's a fun way (for the kids) to sweat", said Jillian Bell, a teacher at W. O. Mitchell Elementary School.



Local-area teachers warm up with the Diavolo Dance Theater troupe

To learn more about National Arts Centre educational programmes or to find other resources for teachers, we invite you to visit <http://www.nac.ca/en/educationandoutreach/index.html>

2008-2009 Dance Season Highlights

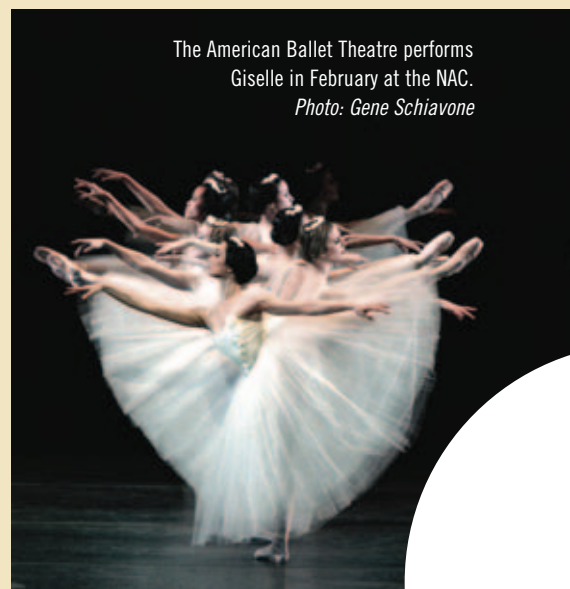
The 2008-09 NAC Dance Season promises a wealth of premiers and strikes a fine balance between innovative contemporary dance, traditional ballet and family fare.

Highlights include:

- American Ballet Theatre, one of the top six classical ballet companies in the world, will make its first ever appearance at the NAC and first visit to Ottawa since 1963, in its rendition of the classical favourite *Giselle*.
- Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet will appear with the Ottawa premiere of *Peter Pan* from renowned choreographer Jorden Morris, a show that promises to appeal to all ages.
- NAC co-production of *Myth*, by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, is a highlight of Series B. This is one of the few international artists with whom we have co-produced.
- The immensely-talented Anik Bissonnette, long-time principal dancer with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, will team with Mário Radačovský and dancers from the Slovak National Ballet (including some Canadian dancers) to present an evening of contemporary dance and film entitled *Kylián le grand*, a tribute to Slovak choreographer Jiří Kylián.
- Choreographer-dancer Crystal Pite will perform new work (an NAC co-production), which will also be seen at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver. Dancer-choreographer Wen Wei Wang's company, Wen Wei Dance, will also be performing new work (also an NAC co-production). Both works, as well as *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Ballet British Columbia, will be featured as part of the NAC's BC Scene.
- *Tango Fire*, an evening of dance and music from Argentina is one of several Special Presentations during the season.
- The season includes five NAC co-productions, three exclusive Canadian engagements, two



world premieres, one North American premiere, and one Canadian premiere.

Dance enthusiasts couldn't hope for a more exciting season! For more information, we invite you to check out <http://www.nac.ca/en/dance/index0809.cfm>



The American Ballet Theatre performs *Giselle* in February at the NAC.
Photo: Gene Schiavone

Calendar of Events

DATE & TIME	EVENT/SPECIAL INFORMATION	INVITATION ONLY	PRODUCERS	DIRECTORS	MAESTROS	PLAYWRIGHTS	BENEFACTORS	SUSTAINERS	ASSOCIATES	EVERYONE
June 26, 2008 7:30 p.m. Southam Hall and Theatre stage	"A Round of Applause" Donor Appreciation Event 									
July 1, 2008	NAC Foundation Canada Day Thank-You Party 									
July 18, 19 and 20, 2008 Shaw Festival	Friends of English Theatre Attend the Shaw Festival with the Friends of English Theatre and receive discounts on tickets. For further information: 613-726-9330 Email: franny@magma.ca									
September 19, 20 and 21, 2008 Stratford Festival	Friends of English Theatre Attend the Stratford Festival with the Friends of English Theatre and receive discounts on tickets. For further information: 613-726-9330 Email: franny@magma.ca									

Wajdi Mouawad: The First Season

The National Arts Centre's French Theatre recently unveiled the first season programmed by its new Artistic Director: Wajdi Mouawad. The renowned playwright, director and actor has assembled an impressive lineup of works under the explosive banner: "We Are at War" The 2008-2009 season will showcase plays by some of the giants of contemporary theatre, including Robert Lepage, André Brassard, Marie Gignac and Wajdi Mouawad himself.

Full Circle recently spoke with Wajdi Mouawad:

Full Circle: *How does one go about building a French Theatre season?*

Wajdi Mouawad: "French Theatre must be a place where we dare to present concepts and connections we believe in. I have invited artists who, whether for a short or a long time, have been engaged in a dialogue with their work and with their perception of the world. The purer, more direct, more honest and riskier that interaction, the more powerful, significant and beautiful the theatre experience. I wanted to build my first season on just this kind of dialogue."

Full Circle: *The NAC French Theatre will present the play Krum by playwright Krzysztof Warlikowski, to be performed entirely in Polish. Don't you find it risky to present artists whose mother tongue is foreign to the audience?*

Wajdi Mouawad: "That word 'foreign'—the word responsible for so much bloodshed—must be part of theatre, any theatre. This project invites us to take a look at ourselves—as we might on a trip abroad—through different eyes, the eyes of a stranger whose scrutiny compels us to (re)define ourselves. Accepting a foreign language, learning to appreciate its beauty and its transformative power, involves working with major-league artists whose work stands on its own: though we may not understand the exact words delivered on stage, through the power of theatre we completely forget that they are spoken in another language. Theatre transcends language to convey meaning through movement, passion, action and reaction."

Full Circle: *Why these words: "We are at war"?*

Blue Dragon/Dragon Bleu is a part of both the French and English theatre seasons at the NAC
Photo: Erick Labbe

Wajdi

Mouawad: "I feel like saying to people, You are at war. And therefore you are engaged, you are in active combat. You are awake. Even if you're falling asleep, you are awake. Obviously I don't say 'you,' I say 'we,' because I'm addressing myself primarily. I think it's important to get this idea of being at war across, because people feel powerless. I feel like telling people that they are active participants in their own lives, not just passive observers. 'We are at war' is a call to action. It's not an invitation to lash out at anyone"

For more information about the NAC's 2008-2009 French Theatre season, please visit www.nac-cna.ca/tf.

For further information please contact:

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