

Karen Kain
Artistic Director

Media Release

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Former Artistic Director David Haber Dies at 81

On Stage
Four Seasons Centre
for the Performing Arts

Mailing Address
The Walter Carsen
Centre for
The National Ballet
of Canada
470 Queens Quay West
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M5V 3K4

Administration
416 345 9686

Fax
416 345 8323

Website
national.ballet.ca

Charitable
Business Number
11905 1449 RR0001

September 22, 2008... The National Ballet of Canada mourns the loss of **David Haber**, Artistic Director from 1974 - 75, who passed away on September 21, 2008 in Houston, Texas at the age of 81.

“David contributed much to the arts in Canada and laboured to raise the profile of Canada and Canadian artists internationally,” says **Karen Kain**, Artistic Director.

Born in Montréal on July 15, 1927, Mr. Haber joined the National Ballet in 1951 as the company’s first Production Stage Manager and managed the company’s first Canadian and U.S. tours, as well as its European debut tour. He was appointed Co-Artistic Director of The National Ballet of Canada with founder **Celia Franca** in 1973 before becoming Artistic Director the following year.

During Mr. Haber’s long career in the arts, he worked with the National Film Board, National Arts Centre and Canada Council for the Arts. He was also a successful agent, managing such artists as Sir John Gielgud and worked at the William Morris Agency in New York City. He went on to create his own company Haber Artists Management Inc., worked with the International Arts Festival for various World’s Fairs and consulted the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington DC and the Houston International Arts Festival.

In his later years, Mr. Haber was dedicated to raising funds for HIV research, AMFAR and the Houston Ballet School. The David Haber and Dr. Didier Piot Scholarship Fund financially assists young men studying ballet, covering both their academic and dance expenses.

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For more information, please contact:

Catherine Chang
Senior Public Relations Manager
416 345 9686 ext. 302
cchang@national.ballet.ca
national.ballet.ca

Wendy Liebner
Publicity Coordinator
416 345 9686 ext. 332
wliebner@national.ballet.ca
national.ballet.ca