



« Faire danser le patrimoine »  
Fernand Nault (1920-2006)  
100th anniversary of his birth (2020-2021)

*Commemorative stamp*  
*Legends of Canadian Ballet*

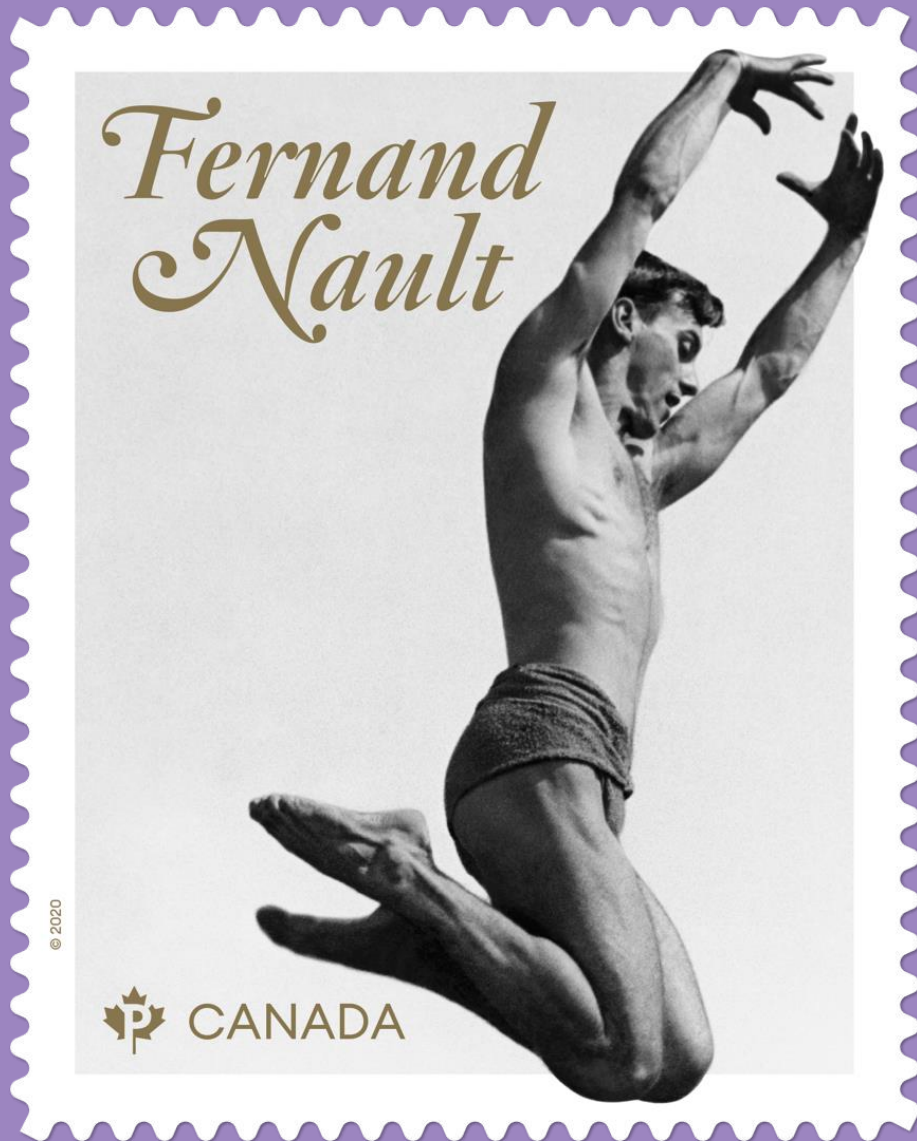
*Canada Post*

*April 29th 2021*



Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=Y5kSbQf2y8E&feature=youtu.be>

*Canadian Ballet  
Legends  
—  
Commemorative stamp  
unveiling*



This commemorative stamp issued by Canada Post represents a major component in the celebrations for the 100th anniversary of Fernand Nault's birth and enhances awareness of the artistic heritage of Quebec and Canada.

We thank Canada Post for participating  
in the *Faire danser le patrimoine*  
program presented by  
Fonds chorégraphique Fernand Nault.



*Fernand Nault*

Fernand Nault (1920-2006), danseur et chorégraphe de renom né Fernand Noël Boissonneault à Montréal, au Québec, est reconnu pour avoir contribué à la renommée mondiale des Grands Ballets Canadiens (aujourd'hui les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal). Il reçoit sa formation auprès de maîtres danseurs à New York, Londres et Paris. En 1944, il remplace un danseur blessé de l'American Ballet Theatre alors en tournée à Montréal. Il reste au sein de cette compagnie jusqu'en 1965, date à laquelle il se joint aux Grands Ballets en tant que directeur artistique adjoint et chorégraphe attitré. Il ajoute une grande variété d'œuvres au répertoire de la compagnie pendant plus de 25 ans. Fernand Nault met également son talent au service de l'École supérieure de ballet du Québec ainsi que d'autres compagnies de danse nord-américaines. Il est nommé chorégraphe émérite des Grands Ballets, Officier de l'Ordre du Canada et Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Québec. Il est également lauréat du Prix du Gouverneur général pour les arts du spectacle de la réalisation artistique, ainsi que du Prix Denise-Pelletier du Québec pour sa contribution aux arts de la scène.

Born Fernand Noël Boissonneault in Montréal, Quebec, Fernand Nault (1920-2006) was a prominent dancer and choreographer who is credited with raising the Grands Ballets Canadiens (now Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal) to international status. After studying with master dancers in New York, London and Paris, Nault replaced an injured dancer of the visiting American Ballet Theatre in Montréal in 1944. He remained with the company until 1965, when he joined the Grands Ballets as co-artistic director and resident choreographer. For more than 25 years, he added a diverse range of works to the company's repertoire. Nault also lent his talents to the École supérieure de ballet du Québec and other North American dance companies. Named choreographer emeritus of the Grands Ballets, Officer of the Order of Canada and Chevalier of the Ordre national du Québec, he also received the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement and Quebec's Prix Denise-Pelletier for contributions to the performing arts.



Color Innovations  
Design: Stéphane Huot  
Photo: Bibliothèque de la danse Vincent Mirreux avec la permission de la succession de Fernand Nault / courtesy of the Fernand Nault estate.

## Commemorative stamp

## Legends of Canadian Ballet

## Day of issue

The stories behind some of Canada's most historic moments, inspiring achievements, artistic icons and visionaries are brought to life every year in the Canadian stamp program.

Fonds chorégraphique Fernand Nault applauds Canada Post for issuing this remarkable commemorative stamp and its role as a Canadian storyteller.

# *Fernand Nault*



Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=tY3aGNPhmuY&feature=youtu.be>

# *Karen Kain*



Link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=FQX\\_lvxbsj4&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=FQX_lvxbsj4&feature=youtu.be)



The Stamp Advisory Committee independently recommends for the annual stamp program and relies on suggestions and input from groups and individuals to ensure program choices are meaningful to all Canadians.



Fernand Nault (1920-2006), né Fernand Noël Boissonneault à Montréal, au Québec, est un danseur et un chorégraphe canadien de renom. Son engagement au sein des Grands Ballets Canadiens (aujourd'hui les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal) contribue à la renommée de la compagnie à travers le monde. Il évolue d'abord au sein de l'American Ballet Theatre durant deux décennies avant de se joindre aux Grands Ballets en tant que directeur artistique adjoint et chorégraphe attitré. Il met ensuite son talent au service de l'École supérieure de ballet du Québec ainsi que d'autres compagnies de danse nord-américaines. Fernand Nault est nommé Officier de l'Ordre du Canada et Chevalier de l'Ordre national du Québec, en plus de recevoir de nombreux prix soulignant ses réalisations artistiques, dont le Prix Denise-Pelletier du Québec.

Born Fernand Noël Boissonneault in Montréal, Quebec, Fernand Nault (1920-2006) was a prominent dancer and choreographer who is credited with raising the Grands Ballets Canadiens (now Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal) to international status. Following two decades with the American Ballet Theatre, Nault joined the Grands Ballets as co-artistic director and resident choreographer, later lending his talents to the École supérieure de ballet du Québec and other North American companies. An Officer of the Order of Canada and a Chevalier of the Ordre national du Québec, he received many awards for his artistic achievements, including Quebec's Prix Denise-Pelletier.

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La loi interdit d'utiliser un timbre-poste qui a déjà servi.  
It is unlawful to remove and attempt to reuse postage stamps.



Fonds chorégraphique Fernand Nault is honored to see this commemorative stamp be part of the *Faire danser le patrimoine* program.

Légendes  
canadiennes  
du ballet

Canadian  
Ballet  
Legends





APRIL 29, 2021

## Canada Post applauds illustrious careers of two ballet legends

*Stamps featuring Karen Kain and Fernand Nault released on International Dance Day*

**OTTAWA** – Canadian ballet legends Karen Kain and Fernand Nault take centre stage as the subjects of two commemorative stamps Canada Post issued today.

Recognized as one of the most gifted classical dancers of her era, **Karen Kain** joined The National Ballet of Canada in 1969. She was promoted to Principal Dancer in 1971 after her debut as the Swan Queen in *Swan Lake* and went on to perform many of ballet's greatest roles over her illustrious career. In 2005, she became the National Ballet's Artistic Director. In 2019, Kain celebrated her 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the National Ballet. Among her many awards and honours, Kain is a Companion of the Order of Canada and an Officer of France's Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

**Fernand Nault** spent two decades with American Ballet Theatre before joining what is now Les Grands Ballets Canadiens de Montréal as resident choreographer and [co-artistic director in 1965](#). [For more than 25 years, he added a diverse range of works to the company's repertoire and often contributed as guest choreographer abroad](#). His long list of accolades includes the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement and Quebec's Prix Denise-Pelletier for contributions to the performing arts. Nault died on December 26, 2006.

The stamps were released on International Dance Day to raise awareness of Canada's prominence in the global ballet community.

### About the stamps

This issue includes two booklets of six Permanent™ domestic rate stamps and a souvenir sheet. Designed by Stéphane Huot and printed by Colour Innovations, each stamp features a dramatic black and white photo of the featured artist in performance, against a simple black (Kain) or white (Nault) background, with metallic gold accents. The stamps are also affixed to two Official First Day Covers cancelled in Kain and Nault's hometowns of Hamilton and Montréal, respectively.

Stamps and collectibles are available at [canadapost.ca/shop](https://canadapost.ca/shop) and postal outlets across Canada.

Here are links to find images of the stamps and other products, our *Details* magazine and other resources:

- External folder with high-resolution images ([click here](#)).
- *Details* magazine ([click here](#) and this [external folder](#)).
- Karen Kain video ([click here](#)).
- Fernand Nault video ([click here](#)).
- Stamps unveiling video ([click here](#)).
- Canada Post magazine article ([click here](#)).
- Social media platforms – [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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**For more information:**

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# Media coverage

A commemorative stamp for Fernand Nault by Canada Post by Les Grands Ballets, April 30th 2021

<https://grandsballets.com/en/news/detail/a-commemorative-stamp-for-fernand-nault-by-canada-post/>

Canada Post honours the performing arts through ballet by Dolce Magazine (Estelle Zentil), May 10th 2021

<https://dolcemag.com/news/canada-post-honours-the-performing-arts-through-ballet/41856>

Canada Post honours two Canadian ballet legends with new commemorative stamp by Everything Zoomer (Andrew Wright), April 30th 2021

<https://www.everythingzoomer.com/arts-entertainment/2021/04/30/canada-post-honours-two-canadian-ballet-legends-with-new-commemorative-stamps/>

Canadian Ballet Legends Honoured by The Montrealer, May 28th 2021

<https://themontrealeronline.com/2021/05/canadian-ballet-legends-honoured/>

Facebook post by deputy Steven MacKinnon, June 30th 2021

[https://www.facebook.com/stevenmackinnon/posts/10158121421511272?notif\\_id=1625087083206224&notif\\_t=mention&ref=notif](https://www.facebook.com/stevenmackinnon/posts/10158121421511272?notif_id=1625087083206224&notif_t=mention&ref=notif)

Facebook post by l'École supérieure du ballet du Québec, May 3rd 2021

<https://www.facebook.com/ecolesuperieureduballetduquebec/photos/a.151961881538602/3838821662852587/>

Honouring Canadian Ballet legends by Canada Post, April 29th 2021

<https://www.canadapost-postescanada.ca/blogs/personal/perspectives/honouring-canadian-ballet-legends/>

One is a ballet superstar, the other a revered teacher and choreographer. They both soar on Canada Post commemorative stamps par Toronto Star (Michael Crabb), April 29th 2021

<https://www.thestar.com/entertainment/2021/04/29/one-is-a-ballet-superstar-the-other-a-revered-teacher-and-choreographer-they-both-soar-on-canada-post-commemorative-stamps.html>

Postes Canada rend hommage à deux légendes du ballet canadien by La Presse (Iris Gagnon-Paradis), April 29th 2021 at 14h59

<https://www.lapresse.ca/arts/spectacles/2021-04-29/postes-canada-rend-hommage-a-deux-legendes-du-ballet-canadien.php>

# *Fonds chorégraphique Fernand Nault*

Fonds chorégraphique Fernand Nault (FCFN) has for mission to insure the perennity of the choreographic repertory of Fernand Nault and to protect the moral rights of its author.

Fonds chorégraphique wishes to thank Canada Post for its participation in the celebrations marking Fernand Nault's 100th birth anniversary.

## *Faire danser le patrimoine*

First Canadian choreographer to ensure his artistic succession during his lifetime, Fernand Nault would have been 100 years old in 2020.

To highlight and celebrate the 100th birth anniversary of the late Choreographer Emeritus Fernand Nault, André Laprise, trustee of the Fonds chorégraphique Fernand Nault, is organizing and coordinating [\*Faire danser le patrimoine\*](#), a series of celebrating activities.

