



Faire danser le patrimoine autrement



2025-2027 Presentation

Faire danser le patrimoine autrement

Memory to propel our artistic heritage, our artistic identity

Learning from our past to carry ourselves towards the future

In Quebec, in Canada, dance, whether in research, in creation or in repertoire, has reached a clear maturity. Such a rich and unique heritage makes it possible to transmit and recreate activities, write stories and build identities.

Dance heritage is intertwined with individual and collective adventures which, in one way or another, influence current practices. It is a common good that testifies to the history of the dancing community, to its journey, to its accomplishments, to its aesthetic tendencies, to its relationship with audiences. It is a landmark, a source of information, a factor of cohesion, a sign of identity and shared memories.

Heritage conservation finds its full purpose in transmission. It benefits artists and their collaborators as much as the general public or researchers. Today, it is fundamental to establish this heritage, to conserve it, to enhance it, and to transmit it in order to fully contribute to the development of the dance of today and of tomorrow.

Educate new generations

Contact with heritage, whether living or documentary, concretely fosters an interest in the discipline it represents, bears witness to it, and undoubtedly nourishes the next generation. While the visual arts, music, literature, and other disciplines have museums, orchestras, books, theaters, and cinema to maintain and preserve their “works,” it must be acknowledged that dance has very few such opportunities.

If we imagine, for example, that a young painter could learn and draw inspiration from the work of a Jackson Pollock, of a Guido Molinari, of a Paul-Émile Borduas, of a Ozias Leduc or even of a Frida Kahlo, it is clear that aspiring dancers and choreographers benefit from studying and learning about the artists who came before them and the works they created.

In Quebec, personalities such as Anne Hébert, Félix Leclerc, Jean-Paul Riopelle, Maurice Richard, Guy Lafleur, Victor Lévy-Beaulieu, Serge Fiori, are recognized and celebrated markers of our cultural and societal identity. Quebec also has worthy ambassadors of dance whose original work, presented on our national stages and far beyond our borders, deserves to be recognized.

Developing a culture of remounting

Remounting productions is an opportunity to meet new audiences, to rediscover those of the early hours, and above all, to contribute to the recognition and notoriety of a work. On a larger scale and in the longer term, they allow the dance of Quebec to be known, its artists and craftsmen, its repertoire, its roots and its developments, its trajectory, and its rich history.

Dance, a leading art, a complete art

Dance is an art of expression whose richness, evolution, and value are rooted in our disciplinary history and our collective memory. The Work of Fernand Nault is without any doubt an important part of the Quebec and Canadian choreographic heritage.



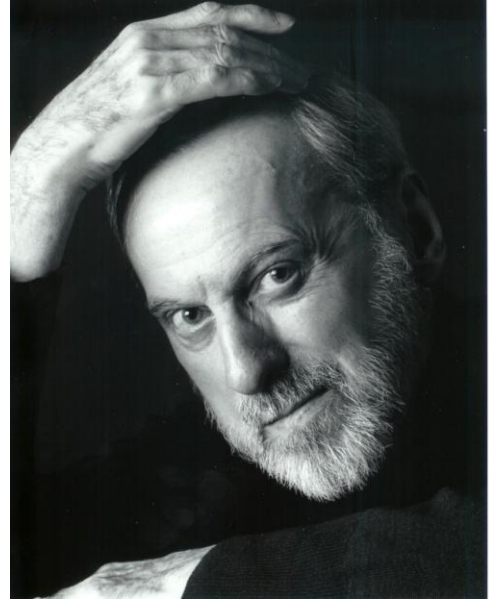
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Unearthing Fernand Nault (1920–2006)

*Fernand Nault, first Canadian choreographer to secure his artistic succession during his lifetime.

An international career at multiple levels

Fernand Nault first had an important career in the United States before returning to settle in Quebec. He had a brilliant career as a choreographer and artistic director at Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in Montreal, and in the United States, especially in Louisville (Kentucky) and in Denver (Colorado). His remarkable works have enabled Les Grands Ballets Canadiens to become "Grands" in Quebec, in Canada, and internationally. Many of his works have been acquired and produced abroad, in the United States, in Asia and in Europe. His rich experience of 21 years, acquired at the American Ballet Theater in New York, as a dancer, a coach, a ballet master, a stage manager, and then as pedagogical director of the company's school, allowed him to make a major contribution in the professional training program of the École supérieure des Grands Ballets Canadiens, now École supérieure de ballet du Québec.



Fernand Nault, photo © Michael Slobodian

A great Quebecer, a great Canadian, a dance giant

Fernand Nault had the chance to learn from "Masters" who were writing the history of dance. He was, for the Quebec of his time, the link between tradition and innovation. His Work, of which the universality and contemporaneity remain, embodies a significant page in our history, in the affirmation of our culture, of our society, of our identity. His ballets tell, among other things, the societal breakup of a historical era.

Un apport remarquable au rayonnement du Québec

A recognized artist of the Quiet Revolution, Fernand Nault was very much involved in terms of creation and interpretation. The success from his creations has, among other things, enabled dance to take a "place" in Quebec culture in addition to contributing greatly to the financial health of several organizations. Creator, builder and important teacher, he was, until the end, a man of firsts, of very constructive initiatives for the Quebec and Canadian cultural milieu.

Fonds chorégraphique Fernand Nault

Founded in 2003, the **Fonds chorégraphique Fernand Nault (FCFN)** has for mission to ensure the durability of the choreographic repertoire of Fernand Nault, to protect the moral rights of its author, and to promote his repertoire. Since 2020, André Laprise, Trustee of the FCFN, organizes and coordinates *Faire danser le patrimoine autrement*, a solid and essential program of activities to commemorate and promote this unique artistic heritage in dance.



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Faire danser le patrimoine autrement

Celebrating dance heritage in diverse movements

Acts in progress 2026– :

- *Danser notre mémoire*, *Carmina Burana*, 60th anniversary of creation
- Documentary film about his Work, his influence
- *Fernand Nault : une passion, un legs*, [digital exhibition](#)
- Podcast about the man and his career
- *Fernand Nault prize*, to support the next generation of dancers
- *Fernand Nault's prize*, to support dance heritage activities
- Staging of Fernand Nault's works
- Reunion event
- Application for recognition: Historical figure
- Application for recognition: Intangible heritage

Réalisation

2026-2027
2026-2027
2026-2027
To be determined
To be determined
To be determined
To be determined
To be determined
2031
To be determined

Upcoming acts 2025-2026:

- *Fernand Nault : une passion, un legs*, [travelling exhibition](#)
Centre culturel Marie-Fitzbach, Saint-Georges, Quebec
- *Fernand Nault : une passion, un legs*, [digital exhibition](#)
- *Fernand Nault, un pionnier*, lecture
- *M. Nault*, [graphic novel](#)
- *Unearthing... Fernand Nault*
- *Dance Heritage Treasure Hunt*

Diffusion

May-August 2026
On demand
On demand
For sale
Continuous
Continuous

Realized acts since 2020:

- *Faire danser le patrimoine*, [program launch](#)
- *Fernand Nault*, [Wikipedia](#) article
- *Fernand Nault, un pionnier*, [article](#)
- *Je me souviens*, [collection of testimonials](#)
- *Timeline: Fernand Nault*
- *De par les mots*, [written media excerpts](#)
- *Legends of ballet*, [commemorative stamp](#)
- *Fernand Nault, au cœur de la danse*, [historical captation](#)
- *Fernand Nault : une passion, un legs*, [exhibition capture](#)
- *M. Nault*, [graphic novel](#)
- *Fernand Nault : une passion, un legs*, [travelling exhibition](#)
Galerie Montcalm, Gatineau, Quebec
Agora Gallery, Stratford, Ontario
- *Tribute to Fernand Nault*, Symphonic Orchestra of Gatineau
- *Casse-Noisette*, 60th anniversary of creation

Diffusion

December 2020
December 2020
December 2020
December 2020
December 2020
December 2020
April 29th, 2021
December 27th, 2021
December 2022
August 24th, 2023

January-March 2024
October-November 2024
June 2024
2024



Faire danser le patrimoine autrement

Be part of the dance

Participate to...

Make our memory dance

	Estimated value
• <i>Danser notre mémoire</i>	
- Staging of <i>Carmina Burana</i> , 60th anniversary	\$750,000 +
- Captation <i>Carmina Burana</i> , 60th anniversary	\$250,000 +
- Documentary film about his Work, his influence	250,000\$ +
• <i>Fernand Nault : une passion, un legs</i> , travelling exhibition	\$7,500/par lieux d'accueil
• Podcast about the man and his career	\$50,000 +
• Reunion event	To be determined

Inspire current and future generations

• Fonds philanthropique Fernand Nault , Endowment funds*	\$1,000,000 (fund to raise)
• <i>Fernand Nault prize</i> , to support the next generation of dancers	To be determined
• <i>Fernand Nault's prize</i> , to support dance heritage activities	To be determined

Share a unique legacy, shine a light on our dance

Concretely contribute to this great heritage movement of dance

- [Donation](#) towards *Faire danser le patrimoine autrement*
- [Sponsor an activity](#), a project of your choice
- Donation to [Fonds philanthropique Fernand Nault / FCO*](#)



Set design sketch of *Carmina Burana* by Robert Prévost
Chasse au trésor du patrimoine de la danse



Veris Leta by Migno, Photo by Claude Wauthier
Fernand Nault : une passion, un legs, traveling exhibition

***Fonds philanthropique Fernand Nault** is a unique lever to arouse interest in the artistic heritage by offering additional funding in order to support the realization of dance projects and contribute to the advancement of the arts in the community. All funds received will be invested in community foundations.



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