



NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
CENTRE NATIONAL DES ARTS

September 24, 2010

For immediate release

Canadians can now visit rare and priceless National Arts Centre scenic design collection online

Web launch coincides with September 24-26 exhibition in the NAC Theatre foyer

Ottawa (Canada) – Starting today, Canadians will have access to rarely-seen images and fascinating details about theatre sets through a new website called [*Imagined Spaces: Scenic Design at the National Arts Centre*](#) (NAC). This website is a new module of [*ArtsAlive.ca*](#), the National Arts Centre's award-winning performing arts educational website. *Imagined Spaces* features over 120 set maquettes and related imagery from productions spanning the Centre's 41-year history.

Works by more than 65 Canadian and international scenographic designers are featured in the collection, including such notables as Josef Svoboda, Michael Eagan, John Pennoyer, Susan Benson, John Ferguson and Peter Rice. Accompanying the photos of set maquettes are archival images of the built sets and production photos. Engaging essays on the history of scenography and archiving theatre are also available alongside educational resources on the art and craft of designing for the theatre. High school students and teachers are also presented with a number of activities and quizzes to help them navigate the site, become familiar with theatre terminology and test their knowledge of scenographic design.

To celebrate today's launch of the website, the National Arts Centre is presenting, until Sunday September 26, an exhibition of theatre maquettes and scenic design photos in the NAC Theatre Foyer as part of the Canada-wide *Culture Days*.

[*ArtsAlive.ca*](#) is the National Arts Centre's performing arts education website targeted at Canadian teachers, students and parents. The website helps the NAC pursue its strategic goals of strengthening performing arts education across Canada and developing audiences among Canadian youth. The exhibits were produced by the NAC's New Media and Archives departments and were made possible in part through the Canadian Culture Online program of Canadian Heritage.

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