

PRESS RELEASE

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Karen Kaeja Awarded Paul D. Fleck Award for Artistic Excellence.

On May 9, 2005, the Banff Centre for the Arts announced Karen Kaeja as one of the recipients of the Paul D. Fleck Award. Karen Kaeja is Co-Artistic Director of Kaeja d'Dance with life partner Allen Kaeja and is internationally renowned as a performer for stage, film, choreography and as a dance educator. The 2005 Fleck Fellowship honors Karen for her exceptional accomplishments and future potential of artistic excellence. Karen's passion for contemporary dance, film creations, Contact Dance and Improvisation, as well as the development and realization of accessible education programming to under served communities, continues to lead her to exciting new frontiers.

This year's Fleck Fellows, Karen Kaeja and Fides Krucker will accompany 13 members and guest artists of Kaeja d'Dance at The Banff Centre of the Arts to workshop a new multi-media dance piece. This work will mix new opera, new media, playwriting, contemporary dance, and original music. Established in 2001, the Fleck Fellowships allow senior artists in all disciplines to participate in independent artistic residencies at The Banff Centre to create new work or collaborate with other arts programs at the Centre. The recipients cross all artistic disciplines, from choreography to non-fiction writing to visual arts. "As in previous years, the Fleck Fellowships in 2005 will support intensive investigatory and creative work by some of Canada's and the world's most innovative artists," says John Murrell, The Banff Centre's acting vice president, programming.

" Karen Kaeja proves once again that she is one of the city's most watchable performers." Glenn Sumi, [Now Magazine](#)

"One of Toronto's top improvisers..." Paula Citron, [Toronto Life](#)