

Veronica Tennant, Prima Ballerina with The National Ballet of Canada for 25 years, won hearts and accolades on the national and international ballet stage. Since 1989, she has been recognized as a gifted filmmaker, producer/director, speaker/narrator and writer, with her works garnering several awards, including the International Emmy Award. In 2004, Veronica Tennant was awarded the prestigious Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement, and was announced by the Canada Council, as the recipient of the Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts. As the first dancer to be appointed to the Order of Canada as Officer in 1975, Veronica Tennant was promoted in 2003, for the breadth of her contribution to the arts in Canada, to the rank of Companion, which is the Order's highest honour.

During Veronica Tennant's illustrious career, she won a devoted following as a dancer of extraordinary versatility and dramatic power. Entering the company at 18 as its youngest Principal Dancer, she was cast by Celia Franca as Juliet in John Cranko's *Romeo and Juliet*. She earned accolades in every major classical role as well as having several ballets choreographed for her - dancing on stages across North America, Europe and Japan, with the greatest male dancers of our time, including Erik Bruhn, Rudolf Nureyev, Anthony Dowell and Mikhail Baryshnikov. She gave her parting performances in 1989 with: *Romeo & Juliet*, and a farewell Gala, *A Passion for Dance: Celebrating the Tennant Magic*.

Overlapping from the National Ballet in 1989, Tennant was the host, creative consultant/writer of *Sunday Arts Entertainment with Veronica Tennant* for three seasons on CBC Television. Her first venture as television producer was with the critically lauded: *Salute to Dancers for Life* telecast on CBC, and *Danser Pour La Vie* for Radio-Canada 1995, in which she also appeared as bilingual host. She produced and authored *Margie Gillis; Wild Hearts in Strange Times*, with a roster of celebrated guests including, Jessye Norman. The show won the 1996 Chrysler's People's Choice Award and its subject, Margie Gillis, received a Gemini Award for Best Performance. Tennant's next special, *Karen Kain Dancing In The Moment*, aired on CBC Television, winning the prestigious 1999 International Emmy Award for Performing Arts. Veronica accepted the Emmy in New York, on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary to the night - of her farewell performance with the National Ballet. Earlier in her dance career, she had danced the title roles of *Cinderella*, and *The Sleeping Beauty*, (with Rudolf Nureyev), which both won Emmy Awards for Norman Campbell and the CBC.

The subject of several performance documentaries, the *Life & Times of Veronica Tennant – Renaissance Woman* was telecast in 2001, the year she was inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame and was one of the inaugural recipients of the Paul D. Fleck Fellowship from The Banff Centre for the Arts. She was Executive Producer/Producer of the Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Gala 2000; and her company, Veronica Tennant Productions co-produced with Rhombus Media, James Kudelka's *The Four Seasons* with a Gemini Award going to Rex Harrington for Best Performance. For Bravo!FACT Tennant choreographed, directed and produced a number of award-winning short films including, sequences from *Shadow Pleasures*, which was first shown on CBC's Opening Night in an hour-long version. Written and narrated by author, Michael Ondaatje, *Shadow Pleasures* received an unprecedented sweep at the 2005 Yorkton Film Festival with 7 Golden Sheaf Awards, including Best of the Festival, Best Performing Arts, and the Norman Jewison Best Director Award for Tennant. *The Cinnamon Peeler*, (a short from *Shadow Pleasures* choreographed by Tennant), enjoyed a theatrical release in cinema's across Canada before Robert Altman's *The Company*, and was included on the Jury Select list at the 2005 Dance on Camera Festival at Lincoln Center and shown on the Bravo!FACT Big Screen Project N.Y. in 2011. In 2006, *Celia Franca: Tour de Force*, made for CTV/Bravo! with Sound Venture Productions, was named the "best dance-film" by the Toronto Star. Broadcasts in 2008/9 included, *Finding Body & Soul*, CBC which won a Silver World Medal at the New York Television/Film Festival. and *Vida y Danza, Cuba!*, CTV/Bravo! – screened at the Luminato Festival, garnering Tennant Gemini Nominations for Best Director and Best Performing Arts Program and invited to screen at the Havana Film Festival as well as showing on Cuban National Television. In 2013, her BravoFACT short film *Something's Coming* starring Guillaume Côté & Paul Nolan was seen by thousands on the internet and screened theatrically by CINEPLEX across the country ahead of LIVE Performance simulcasts.

On the concert stage, Veronica Tennant has performed extensively as narrator and creator with Canada's orchestras including; The Toronto Symphony, The National Arts Centre Orchestra, The Vancouver Symphony and she's been a frequent guest at Festival of the Sound, Opera Atelier and Toronto Consort. Her theatrical collaborations include; performing in The Shaw Festival's 1992 season in the leading role of Ivy Smith/Miss Turnstiles in *On the Town*, and a 22-city national tour in the title role of *The Piano Man's Daughter and Others*, with Timothy Findley, directed by Paul Thompson. As associate director and choreographer; she has worked at the Tarragon Theatre, Canadian Stage, and the Stratford Festival. In 2007 Veronica Tennant was movement director/choreographer, for the successful theatrical adaptation of Margaret Atwood's *The Penelopiad*, a collaboration between the Royal Shakespearean Company and the National Arts Centre, performed in Stratford-Upon-Avon in the UK and at the NAC in Ottawa, Canada.

Veronica Tennant has published two children's books with McClelland and Stewart, *On Stage, Please* and *The Nutcracker*, as well as writing articles for *Saturday Night Magazine*, *The Globe and Mail*, *Toronto Star* and *Dance International*. She was the bilingual co-host of the 2009 NAC 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the 1999 Governor General's Performing Arts Awards, and for the Canada Day Celebrations from Parliament Hill in 1995 and 2002. Dr. Tennant has been awarded honorary doctorates from: Brock University, York University, Simon Fraser and the University of Toronto, and in 2005, Doctor of Letters from McGill. Twice invited by the University of California, Irvine in both the Departments of Dance and Film/Media, Tennant was the Chancellor's Distinguished Fellow for the 2005/06 season. She has been honoured with the Toronto Arts Award, the Arts and Letters Award from The Canadian Club of New York City, and the Danny Kaye Award from UNICEF. A tireless advocate for the Arts, Veronica Tennant has served on the boards of a large number of arts organizations including the Ontario Arts Council, the first dancer elected to The National Ballet Board, the Glenn Gould Foundation, the Dancer Transition Resource Centre, the inaugural board of The Governor General's Performing Arts Awards, two terms on the Board of Trustees of the National Arts Centre, and currently, REEL Canada since 2010.

Chosen by The Banff Centre as their 2004 Outstanding Alumnae Nominee in Alberta's Provincial Awards for Excellence, Veronica Tennant was named Canada's cultural ambassador for the 2005 Hans Christian Andersen celebrations in Denmark. She was Chair of The Arts and Culture Committee of the Toronto 2008 Olympic Bid, and has served as Adjunct Professor, Fine Arts at York University. She has produced & directed innumerable charity benefits, including *Dreams Come True* for the launching of The Artists' Health Centre at the Toronto Western Hospital 2002, directing *Vive La Danse* honoring the Dancer Transition Resource Centre in 2007 and 2011, and annually, *An Artists' Affair* to benefit Tafelmusik and The Artists' Health Centre 2010-2017. In summer 2009, Tennant was guest-artist alumna of The Banff Centre's midsummer weekend, with screenings of *Shadow Pleasures*, & *Vida y Danza, Cuba*, and in 2010 she was invited to Havana by Cuban National Television to record a series of interviews to accompany the broadcast of both - shows she danced in, and the ones she produced and directed. Veronica Tennant was the opening speaker in Toronto for the Unique Lives series in February, 2010. She was named Cultural Ambassador for the City of Hamilton in 2011, and bestowed with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal by His Excellency the Governor General, David Johnston in 2012. For the cultural program of the Pan Am Games in 2015, Veronica conceived and directed the multi-media stage-show, *NIÁGARA~ A Pan-American Story*, commissioned for TO2015.

Veronica Tennant has served as Canada's National Ambassador for UNICEF since 1992. She was elevated in 2003 from Officer, to Companion of the Order of Canada, the Order's highest honour. In 2018, Veronica was inducted into the inaugural, *Encore! Dance Hall of Fame* presented by Dance Collection Danse. She is producer for *Christopher Plummer ~ A Memoir* which enjoyed its premiere, November 2018 at the Winter Garden Theatre in Toronto, and at Hot Docs 2019, to benefit Theatre Museum Canada. *Karen Kain: Dancing in the Moment* was screened at Hot Docs, September 18, 2019 in celebration of Karen Kain's 50 years with the National Ballet – followed by a Conversation Q&A with Karen and Veronica – Writer, Producer and Co-Director of the International Emmy Award-winning film.

**HONOURS, AWARDS**

2018	Inaugural Inductee, Encore! Dance Hall of Fame – Dance Collection Danse
2012	The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal
2010	Silver World Medal; <i>Finding Body &amp; Soul</i> , New York Television/Film Festival
2009	Gemini Nomination; <i>Vida y Danza, Cuba</i> Best Performing Arts Program
2009	Gemini Nomination; <i>Vida y Danza, Cuba</i> Best Direction, Performing Arts Program
2008	Governor General’s Performing Arts Awards Inaugural Mentor- Crystal Pite
2006	Veronica Tennant Studio, National Ballet School - gift of Margaret & Wallace McCain
2005	Doctor of Letters, <i>honoris causa</i> , McGill University
2005	Golden Sheaf Award, Best Director –Fiction for <i>Shadow Pleasures</i>
2005	7 Golden Sheaf Awards including ‘Best of Yorkton Film Festival <i>Shadow Pleasures</i>
2004	Governor General’s Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement
2004	Gemini Nomination; <i>Shadow Pleasures</i> Best Direction Performing Arts Programme
2004	Canada Council’s Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts
2004	Outstanding Alumnus Nominee, The Banff Centre Provincial Awards
2003	Companion of the Order of Canada [promotion]
2002	Gemini Nomination; <i>Dancers’Story</i> Best Direction Performing Arts Programme
2001	Paul D. Fleck Fellowship in the Arts – The Banff Centre (inaugural year)
2001	Canada’s Walk of Fame Inductee
1999	International EMMY Award; <i>Karen Kain – Dancing in the Moment</i>
1999	UNICEF Danny Kaye Distinguished Service Award
1997	Prima Studio National Ballet of Canada, gift of Margaret and James Fleck
1996	UNICEF 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gold-Medal Award for service
1992	Doctor of Laws, <i>honoris causa</i> , University of Toronto
1992	Doctor of Laws, <i>honoris causa</i> , Simon Fraser University
1992	Governor General’s Commemorative Medal, Canada 125
1991	Canadian Club Arts and Letters Award, New York City
1990	Artpark People’s Award, Lewiston, New York
1989	Award of Merit, City of Toronto
1987	Toronto Arts Award, Performing Arts
1987	Doctor of Laws, <i>honoris causa</i> , York University
1985	Doctor of Letters, <i>honoris causa</i> , Brock University
1977	Queen’s Jubilee 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medal
1975	<u>Officer of the Order of Canada</u>

**APPOINTMENTS**

2019	Honorary Chair with Karen Kain <i>Creative TO Honoring Robert &amp; Julia Foster</i>
2018	Honorary Chair <i>Encore! Dance Hall of Fame DCD</i>
2017<2010	Artistic Producer, <i>An Artists’ Affair</i> in support of the Al & Malka Green Artists’ Health Centre and Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and Chamber Choir
2013	Honorary Chair~ UNICEF Experience launching <i>No Child Too Far</i> campaign
2011-current	Honorary Patron of the Cecchetti Society of Canada
2011	Cultural Ambassador for the City of Hamilton, Mayor Bob Bratina
2010-current	Artscape Ambassador
2010-current	Board of Directors, REEL Canada
2010-current	Artists’ Health Centre Foundation; Community Circle
2010-current	Advisory Council, Terry Fox Institute
2009	Honorary Chair, Shumka’s 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
2008-current	Dance Collection Danse, Honorary Advisor

2005	Canadian Ambassador for Hans Christian Andersen Year, Denmark
2005	Talent Lab filmmaker, Toronto International Film Festival
2011-2004	Member Board of Trustees of The National Arts Centre
2010-2004	Member of Ontario Ministry's Advisory Council for Arts and Culture
2000-1998	Chair, Arts & Culture Committee, Toronto 2008 Olympic Bid
1992-current	National Ambassador, UNICEF Canada
1999-1992	Honorary Chair, UNICEF Ontario
1999	Women in the Director's Chair -Banff Centre for the Arts
1994	Chair, 'Festival Channel' application CRTC
1993	Board of Advisors, Opera Atelier
2004<1989	Adjunct Professor, Fine Arts, York University
1999<1991	Fellow, Winters College, York University
1993<1991	Canadian Council on The Status of the Artist, Federal Department of Communications
<u>1991&lt;1989</u>	<u>Honorary Chair, The Ontario March of Dimes</u>

### **BOOKS, AUTHOR**

1986: & recording, 1987 The Nutcracker, McClelland & Stewart  
1977: & recording, 1990 On Stage, Please, McClelland & Stewart – Tundra Books

### **DIRECTORSHIPS**

2019<2009	Member Board of Directors, REEL Canada
2011<2004	Member Board of Trustees of The National Arts Centre
2000<1998	Board of Directors, City of Toronto Olympic Bid, 2008
1995<1992	The Governor General's Performing Arts Awards inaugural Board of Directors
1995<1992	The Dancer Transition Centre
1992<1989	The Glenn Gould Foundation
1990<1988	The Toronto Arts Awards Foundation
1984&1972	The National Ballet Company, (Dancers' Representative)
<u>1975&lt;1978</u>	<u>Board of Directors, The Ontario Arts Council</u>

### **PUBLISHED ARTICLES** include:

2017	150 stories/récits~ Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario
2008	Banff Centre's 75 <sup>th</sup> anniversary book <i>Inspiring Creativity</i> contributing essay
2005	"Reflections in a Dancing Eye: Investigating the Artist's Role in Canadian Society" Edited by Carol Anderson and Joysanne Sidimus – Banff Centre Press
2005	"Zest and Passion: Dancing with Fernando Bujones" Dance International
2004	"National Arts Centre – 35!" Globe and Mail
2003	UNICEF for my child and all children Globe and Mail
1997	"Karen Kain, a personal tribute" Dance International
1996	"Washington Square" National Ballet News
1994	"La Sylphide", "The Nutcracker", "Rudolf Nureyev" Performance - O'Keefe Centre National Ballet Programs
1993	"Rudolf Nureyev Remembered", Dance International
1992	"To Make My Christmas Complete", Globe and Mail
1991	"The Nutcracker", The Toronto Star
1989	"Sir Laurence Olivier", The Toronto Star

1988 "The Art of Flamenco", The Toronto Star  
 1982 "Canadian Style in Ballet", The Toronto Star  
 1976 "National Ballet, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary", Visions, Dance Magazine

**GUEST SPEAKING/HOST/Emcee** includes:

2019<2009 *The Agony & Ecstasy*, National Ballet of Canada, annual Patrons' Council Event  
 2013 Honorary Chair's Address UNICEF EXPERIENCE *No Child too Far* Koerner Hall  
 2012 Moderator, *The CBC We Want*; Forum for Friends of Canadian Broadcasting  
 2012 Host, *An Artists' Affair* with Peter Keleghan, The Carlu, Toronto  
 2012<1965 Speaker/Host, The National Ballet Company of Canada/Galas and Special Events  
 2010 *Unique Lives*, Guest Speaker series, Toronto  
 2010 Host, *An Artists' Affair*, with Don Ferguson, Four Seasons Hotel, Toronto  
 2010 Celebrating *Art of Time* with Her Excellency, Adrienne Clarkson  
 2010 Narrator, *The Firebird*, Brott Music Festival, Hamilton  
 2010 MC conversations with Bruce Greenwood, Chi Chow –*Mao's Last Dancer*,  
 Release special screening, Isabel Bader Theatre, Toronto  
 2009 *National Arts Centre 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*, onstage co-host with Michel Marc Bouchard  
 2009 Host, Shumka's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!, Edmonton, Alberta  
 2009 Host, National Arts Centre Orchestra Youth Concert with Boris Brott  
 2009 York University, symposium on choreography and creativity in dance & film  
 2007 House of Commons, Keynote Staff Address; Forum Communication  
 2007 Footprints: *A Journey in Dance and Drums*, Koerner Hall for Art of Jazz  
 2006 Red Deer College, Alberta; *The Canadian Paradox ~ Standing Tall in the Arts*  
 2005 Celebrating Her Excellency Governor General, Adrienne Clarkson, NAC  
 2005 Idea City –Moses Znaimer - Presenter  
 2005 University of California, Chancellor's Distinguished Fellow Lecture & screening  
 2005 American Dental Association Keynote speaker, Toronto  
 2005 *The Dancing Mind*, Hart House UofT –Opening speaker  
 2005 Unique Lives Guest Speaker series, Vancouver  
 2004 Celebrating 35 Years, The National Arts Centre, Ottawa  
 2000 *Dancers for Life*, Host, Victoria BC  
 2000 Arts & Education in Canada: A Window to the Future  
 1998 Distinguished Professor: Lecture, University of California, Irvine  
 1998 Welland Business and Development Corporation, Keynote Speaker  
 1998 University of Western Ontario, Conference, *CHOICES*, Keynote Speaker  
 1998 P.E.N. Benefit, Toronto  
 1998 Women's International Day, Toronto  
 1997 Halifax Dance, Halifax, Nova Scotia  
 1996 Celia Franca Scholarship Evening, National Gallery, Ottawa  
 1995 Host, Canada Day, Parliament Hill, Protocol Show (bilingual)  
 1995 Presentation to Celia Franca - Governor General's Performing Arts Award  
 1994 P.E.N. Benefit, Toronto  
 1993 Erik Bruhn International Competition, (M.C.)  
 1993 International Women's Day, Toronto  
 1992 UNICEF Canada AGM and receiving Danny Kaye Award  
 1991 The Governor General Literary Awards, (M.C.)  
 1991 The Canadian Club, New York, (Award Recipient)  
 1991 Tribute to Frank Augustyn, National Ballet's  
 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, O'Keefe Centre, Toronto  
 1991 *Dancers for Life*, Gala, St. Lawrence Centre, Toronto

1990	The Canadian Conference of the Arts
1990	The Canadian Women's Club, Winnipeg, New York
1990	The Alberta Hospital Association
1990	Peter Gzowski's Benefit for Literacy
1989	Host, Floyd Chalmers' gift \$10,000,000. Donation to the Arts- Joan Chalmers
1989	Host, Toronto Arts Awards
1989	Host, Ontario March of Dimes Gala
1986	Tribute to Erik Bruhn, O'Keefe Centre, Toronto
1984	Host (bilingual) Gala Concert Royal Visit Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II,
1982	The Canadian Club, Ottawa

---

**THEATRE PERFORMANCES** include:

2006/5/4/3	<i>Invitation to the Dance</i> , host/director, performances with Ronda Nychka, Richard Landry, Robert Kortgaard, Peter Tiefenbach in BC, Ontario, New Brunswick, PEI & Nova Scotia
1999	<i>The Piano Man's Daughter</i> with David Sereda dir. Paul Thompson Port Colborne
1998/7/6	<i>The Little Match Girl</i> , performer, choreographer writer, Calgary Philharmonic, Edmonton Symphony, Victoria Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto
1997	<i>The Many Streams of Canadian Culture</i> , Tribute to Robert Lepage, Hart House
1997	<i>The Piano Man's Daughter and Others</i> , actor, dancer, 22 performance National tour with Timothy Findley, Sylvia Tyson, Joe Sealy
1997/6/5	<i>An Elizabethan Entertainment</i> , actor, dancer, with The Toronto Consort
1996	<i>Pages of Gesture</i> , Dancer Transition Centre Gala, Winter Garden Theatre, text by Timothy Findlay, music by Peter Togni
1995/4/3	<i>Choice and Chance Encounters</i> , performer, writer, with James Campbell, Gene DiNovi, Markham Theatre, Elora Festival, Festival of the Sound, Guelph Spring Festival
1993	<i>Maud</i> , actor, dancer, writer, Shaw Festival, Festival of the Sound [CBC Radio]
1993	<i>The Sorceress</i> , actor, dancer, Opera Atelier
1992	<i>On The Town</i> , - "Miss Turnstiles" - actor, dancer, Shaw Festival Company for 1992 season
1991	Shaw Festival Benefit, 30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
1986	Shaw Festival - 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala
1986	<i>Goldilocks</i> , with Lionel Blair, Royal Alexandra Theatre
1982	Stratford Festival - 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala
1980	<i>Hans Christian Andersen</i> , with Tom Kneebone, Young People's Theatre

---

**THEATRE DIRECTION** includes:

2015	Niagara ~ A Pan American Story, for PANAM Arts and Culture Program
2007	<i>The Penelopiad</i> by Margaret Atwood [Movement Director/choreographer] Royal Shakespearean Company UK/ National Arts Centre Ottawa.
2005	<i>Carmen La Gitana</i> , Jackson Triggs Amphitheatre Niagara on the Lake
2002	<i>Dreams Comes True</i> . Princess of Wales Toronto Artistic Director Benefit for Artists' Health Centre and Dancer Transition Resource Centre
1999	<i>Connections &amp; Encounters</i> : The Timms Centre, Edmonton, Artistic Director
1994	<i>Rough Crossing</i> , The Canadian Stage, associate director, choreographer
1994	<i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i> , Stratford Festival, staged curtain call – Colm Feore
1992	<i>The Cherry Orchard</i> , Tarragon Theatre, assistant director, choreographer

1983 *Cyrano de Bergerac*, Shaw Festival, staged curtain call – Heath Lamberts

**TELEVISION DOCUMENTARIES (as subject)** include:

2001 *Life & Times of Veronica Tennant: Renaissance Woman*, CBC TV  
1989 *Veronica - Completing the Circle*,  
Adrienne Clarkson Presents, CBC  
1989 Profiles - The National, The Journal, Midday, CBC; Canada AM, CTV  
1989 *Veronica - la Ballerine*, TVO  
1987 Profile - *The Toronto Arts Awards*, CBLT  
1983 *Veronica Tennant, A Dancer of Distinction*, CBC  
1970 *Telescope - Veronica Tennant*, CBC

**DANCE PERFORMANCES ON FILM** include:

1995 *Satie and Suzanne*, Rhombus Media, (Gemini Nomination)  
1982 *Gala*, National Film Board  
1979 *Mad Shadows*, CBC, (ACTRA Best Actress Nomination)

**TELEVISION BROADCASTS** include:

2005 *Vicki Gabereau Show* CTV  
2005 *Governor General's Performing Arts Awards*, Honoree, CBC & SRC  
2004 *Vicki Gabereau Show* CTV  
2002 *Canada Day from Parliament Hill*, (bilingual), CBC Television  
1999 *Governor General's Performing Arts Awards*, National Arts Centre, Ottawa  
Host, (bilingual) CBC & SRC  
1999 *Live! from the NAC*: CBC Television/Radio Pinchas Zukerman, NACO  
1998 Presentation NAC Award to Karen Kain: CBC  
*Governor General's Performing Arts Awards*, National Arts Centre, Ottawa  
1996 *Encore!*, host, 3 hour special including repeat of *The Sleeping Beauty*, CBC  
1997/6/5 *Footnotes, with Frank Augustyn*, guest, Bravo!  
1995 *Canada Day from Parliament Hill*, bilingual host, CBC Television  
1995 Presentation to Celia Franca, Governor General's Performing Arts  
Awards, National Arts Centre, Ottawa  
1995/4 *Salute to Dancers For Life/Danser Pour La Vie*, host, CBC  
1993 *YTV Achievement Awards*, presenter/juror, Dance Award  
1992-1989 *Sunday Arts Entertainment with Veronica Tennant*, Host/interviewer,  
creative consultant, CBC  
1992 *Pictures From The Edge*, Host, Rhombus Media, CBC  
1989 *The Toronto Arts Awards*, host/writer, CBLT  
1988 *The Dance-Makers*, host, six-part series, CBC & TVO  
1985 *Tribute to Norman McLaren*, host, CBC  
1984 *Royal Gala, live from Roy Thomson Hall*, in honour of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.  
1982 *Taming of the Shrew, Evening at Stratford*, host/interviewer, John Hirsch, CBC

**TELEVISION DANCE PERFORMANCES** include:

1995	<i>Satie and Suzanne</i> , Rhombus Media, with Nicholas Pennell
1990	<i>Eric's World</i> , Cambium Productions, Global TV
1986	<i>It's Too Darn Hot!</i> (David Allan), The Toronto Arts Awards
1983	<i>Liebestod</i> , with Raymond Smith, (Patsalas), Les Beaux Dimanches, SRC
1982	<i>The Newcomers</i> , (Macdonald) CBC & BBC
1979	<i>The Liona Boyd Show</i> , with Frank Augustyn (Kudelka)
1976	<i>The Hagood Hardy Show</i> , (Ditchburn), with Frank Augustyn & Toller Cranston, CBC
1974	<i>La Sylphide</i> with Mikhail Baryshnikov, CBC
1972	<i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> , with Rudolf Nureyev, CBC & PBS (Emmy Award)
1967	<i>Cinderella</i> , with Jeremy Blanton, CBC (Emmy Award)
1965	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , with Earl Kraul, CBC (Prix Rene Barthelmy-France)

**RADIO BROADCASTS** include:

2015	<i>CBC Radio</i> – Curse of Clara: A Holiday Tale, animated Christmas Special
2012	<i>Fresh Air</i> – Mary Ito Remembering Celia Franca CBC
2009	<i>Sounds Like Canada</i> with Shelagh Rogers- National Arts Centre's 40 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
2006	<i>The Weaving Maiden</i> Soundstreams CBC
2005	<i>Musique de ma Vie</i> SRC
2004	<i>Sounds Like Canada</i> with Shelagh Rogers (3 occasions)
1997	<i>Morningside</i> , CBC, with Peter Gzowski, Timothy Findley, Paul Thompson,
1996	<i>Morningside</i> , CBC, with Margie Gillis and Peter Gzowski
1994	<i>Mostly Music</i> , CBC commissioned, composer Andrew MacDonald <i>Green Steps in Sunshine</i> , for James Campbell and Veronica Tennant
1993	<i>Morningside</i> , CBC, readings from the journals of Susanna Moodie
1992	<i>Vicki Gaboreau</i> , CBC
1991/90, 1989/85	<i>Morningside</i> , film and book reviews, Peter Gzowski, CBC
1989	<i>The Arts Tonight with Sheila Rogers</i> , CBC
1986	<i>One to One, State of the Arts</i> , series, CBC Interviewed: Anthony Dowell, Martine van Hamel, Evelyn Hart, & Jiri Kylian
1986	<i>Music in My Life</i> , Arts National, CBC
1985/1980/1977	<i>Stereo Morning</i> , Guest Reviewer for film and books

**GUEST BALLERINA PERFORMANCES** include:

1989	<i>Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux</i> , (Balanchine), Henny Juriens, <i>Four Last Songs</i> , (van Danzig) with Henny Juriens, RWB
1989	<i>Giselle Pas de Deux</i> , <i>Villanella</i> , (Allan) with Anthony Randazzo, Bermuda Festival
1988	<i>Court of Miracles</i> (Earl, Kudelka, Randazzo) Toronto Dance Theatre
1985	<i>Stars and Soloists of the Canadian Ballet</i> , (David Allan), Italian tour
1984	<i>Giselle</i> , with David Peregrine, Royal Winnipeg Ballet
1982	<i>Flames of Paris</i> , <i>Les Sylphides</i> , with Johann Renvell, Miami Ballet
1982	<i>Giselle</i> , <i>La Sylphide</i> , with Fernando Bujones, Ballet Caracas
1983	<i>Liebestod</i> , (Patsalas), Festival D'Aquila, Italy
1980	<i>La Sylphide</i> , with Fernando Bujones, American Ballet Theatre, New York
1978	<i>Pas de Quatre</i> , (Dolin), Les Grands Ballets Canadiens



1976 *Giselle, Coppelia*, with Ivan Nagy, New Orleans Ballet  
1973 *Fetes Polonaises*, (Kirby) with Jeremy Blanton, Jacob's Pillow

**ORIGINAL DANCE ROLES** include:

Catherine Sloper, *Washington Square*, (James Kudelka)

Isabelle Marie, *Mad Shadows*, (Ann Ditchburn)

Thea, *Hedda*, (James Kudelka)

The Hostess, *A Party*, (James Kudelka)

*Cinderella*, (Celia Franca)

*Kraanerg*, (Roland Petit)

*The Newcomers*, (Brian Macdonald)

Whispers of Darkness, (Norbert Vesak)

*All Night Wonder* (James Kudelka)

*Lieobostod* (Constantin Patsalas)

Portrait of Love and Death, (Vicente Nebrada)

*Realm*, (David Earle)

*Bolero*, (Constantin Patsalas)

*Canciones*, (Constantin Patsalas)

*Masada*, (David Allan)

*Villanella*, (David Allan)

**COMPLETE BALLETTIC REPERTOIRE~ LISTED CHRONOLOGICALLY (\* WORLD PREMIERE)**

Romeo and Juliet /Cranko

Allegresse / Solov

The Nutcracker / Franca

La Sylphide /Bruhn (role of Effie)

Les Sylphides /Franca-Bruhn

Don Quixote Pas de Deux /Petipa

Offenbach in the Underworld /Tudor

Adagio Cantabile / Heinz Poll \*

Pulcinella / Strate \*

Rivalite / Seillier \*

Bayaderka: Act 1V / Valukin

Eh! /Franca \*

Celebrations / Poll \*

Rondo Giacoso / Poll

Triptych / Strate

Serenade /Balanchine

Solitaire / MacMillan

La Prima Ballerina / Heiden

Swan Lake / Bruhn (Neapolitan) \*

Cinderella / Franca \*

La Sylphide / Bruhn (title role)

Swan Lake / Bruhn (Swan Queen)

Eleven For Now / Kirby

Les Rendezvous / Ashton

Kraanerg / Petit \*

The Lesson / Flindt

Le Loup / Petit

Fete Polonaise / Kirby \*

Petroushka /Fokine-Beriosoff

Giselle / Wright

Le Corsaire Pas de Deux / Klavin

Intermezzo / Feld

The Sleeping Beauty / Nureyev

Sonata / Kudelka \*

Don Juan / Neumeier

Kettentanz / Arpino

Whispers of Darkness / Vesak \*

Apples / Kudelka \*

Trio / Kudelka \*

Coppelia / Bruhn \*

Flower Festival Pas de Deux / Bournonville-Bruhn

A Party / Kudelka \*

La Fille Mal Gardee / Ashton

Four Schumann Pieces / van Manen

The Dream / Ashton

Pas de Quatre / Dolin

Mad Shadows / Ditchburn

Washington Square / Kudelka \*

Paranda Criolla / Patsalas

Etudes / Lander

Bolero / Patsalas \*

Newcomers / Macdonald

Obelisk / Luoma \*

Dark Elegies / Tudor

Napoli / Schaufuss

Tristan and Isolde / Patsalas \*

Don Quixote / Beriosoff

Portrait of Love and Death / Nebrada \*

Flames of Paris Pas de Deux / Vainonen

Hedda / Kudelka \*

Katchaturian Pas de Deux / Allan \*

Canciones / Patsalas \*

Mobile / Ruud

Etc! / Allan \*

Court of Miracles / Earle

Onegin / Cranko

Realm / Earle \*

Capriccio / Allan \*

Firebird solo / Allan \*

Dying Swan / Fokine

Boticelli Pictures / Allan \*

The Merry Widow / Hynd

Masada / Allan \*

Four Last Songs / van Dantzig

Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux / Balanchine

Forgotten Land / Kylian

Rendezvous des Coeurs / Allan \*

---

“Force: if there’s a word to describe Veronica Tennant’s toe-hold on success, this may be it. A dancer of extraordinary depth and sincerity, she has been a force to reckon with in the ballet world for almost a quarter-century.” *Globe and Mail*, 1989.

“As far as the oversold audience at the O’Keefe Centre last night was concerned, she could have danced all night and still they would have stayed and cheered. Veronica Tennant’s farewell gala with the National Ballet of Canada was the kind of evening you wanted never to end...the parting image of Veronica Tennant’s Tatiana in the last act of Cranko’s *Onegin* ...best sums up her extraordinary gift of conveying profound emotion through the language of movement.” *The Toronto Star* November 22, 1989

**MASTER CLASSES:** Canada's National Ballet School, Richmond Academy of Dance, University of Michigan Dance~Ann Arbor, Cecchetti International Summer School LA 2000, University of California, Irvine, The Sarasota Ballet, Marin Ballet, Alberta Ballet Co. & School, Halifax Dance, Vancouver Ballet Society, The Cecchetti Society of Canada /BC, Alberta Dance Association, The Academy of Performing Arts, Hong Kong, The Hong Kong Ballet Co., The Quinte Dance Centre, Riverside Ballet Theatre, York University Dance Department, University of Toronto, theatre programme.

**COACHING:** The National Ballet of Canada, The National Ballet School

**LECTURES:** Dance History: York University, University of Waterloo, University of Toronto  
Drama program, Residency, Department of Dance/Film, University of California, Irvine - November 15-27, 1998  
Chancellor's Distinguished Fellowship, University of California, Irvine –October 15-23, 2005

**LANGUAGES:** English, French, Spanish

**ADDITIONAL:** BAC-LAC Library and Archives Canada.

**WEBSITE:** <https://veronicatennant.com>

**HIGHLIGHT PERFORMANCES WITH THE NATIONAL BALLET OF CANADA** include:

- 1964 *La Sylphide* (Bruhn)
- 1965 Debut, *Juliet, Romeo and Juliet*, (Cranko) with Earl Kraul
- 1965 *The Nutcracker*, (Franca), Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal
- 1966 *Romeo and Juliet*, Washington DC, Mexico City
- 1966 *Pulcinella, Triptych*, (Strate); *Les Rendezvous*, (Ashton); *Solitaire*, (MacMillan)
- 1967 Debut, Swan Queen, and Neapolitan Dance, *Swan Lake*, (Bruhn);  
*The Lesson*, (Flindt) with Flemming Flindt and Celia Franca
- 1968 Premiere performance, *Cinderella*, (Franca), Toronto; *Romeo and Juliet*, with Edward Villella, Toronto, Ottawa
- 1969 Created leading role *Kraanerg*, (Petit) - opening of The National Arts Centre, Ottawa; *Le Loup*, (Petit) with Jean-Pierre Bonnefous
- 1970 Expo '70 in Osaka, Japan, *Romeo and Juliet, Le Loup*
- 1972 Premiere performance, London, England - *La Sylphide*, (Bruhn) with Niels Kehlet, and National Ballet Co. premieres in Paris, Stuttgart;  
*Swan Lake*, in Monte Carlo, Prince Rainier and Princess Grace
- 1972 Premiere performance as Princess Aurora with Rudolf Nureyev in his *Sleeping Beauty*, Ottawa, and subsequent Sol Hurok tour in the U.S. major Capitals
- 1973 Premiere performance for National Ballet in New York at the Metropolitan Opera House - *Sleeping Beauty* with Nureyev
- 1973 Premiere performance *Les Sylphides*, (Mazurka & Pas de Deux), restaged by Erik Bruhn and Celia Franca
- 1974 *La Sylphide* with Mikhail Baryshnikov, Toronto, following his defection, *Giselle* with Nureyev, New York
- 1975 Premiere, *Swanhilda* in Erik Bruhn's *Coppelia*, Toronto; and with Rudolf Nureyev for his debut as Franz, and with Erik Bruhn as Dr. Coppelius in New York and London, England

- 1976 *Romeo and Juliet* with Frank Augustyn at NBC's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Toronto  
 1978 Premiere performance, *Washington Square*, (Kudelka) with Peter Schaufuss  
 1979 *La Fille Mal Gardee*, (Ashton) with Peter Schaufuss, Covent Garden, and  
*Mad Shadons*, London, England  
 1980 *Le Corsaire Pas de Deux* and *La Fille Mal Gardee* with Peter Schaufuss,  
 Nervi Festival, Italy  
 1981 *Napoli* with Peter Schaufuss, NBC's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; *The Dream*, (Ashton) with  
 Anthony Dowell, Toronto and Palm Beach  
 1984 *Canciones*, (Patsalas) with Kevin Pugh, Stuttgart, Munich  
 1985 Debut, Tatiana, in *Onegin*, (Cranko) with Raymond Smith, Ottawa  
 1986 *Villanella*, (Allan) The Metropolitan Opera House, New York  
 1987 *Merry Widow* (Hynd) with Tomas Schramek, Kennedy Center; created leading  
 role, *Masada*, (Allan); *Washington Square* (excerpt), NBC 35<sup>th</sup>  
 Anniversary; *Serenade*, (Balanchine), London, England  
 1988 *Forgotten Land*, (Kylia) with Frank Augustyn, Toronto  
 1989 *Onegin*, Metropolitan Opera House, New York;  
 Farewell performances: *Romeo and Juliet*, with Raymond Smith;  
*A Passion for Dance - Celebrating the Tennant Magic*. Gala Tribute,  
 O'Keefe Centre, Toronto, November 21, 1989

**FILMOGRAPHY** ~Veronica Tennant

Television Producer-Director / Author-Writer /

- 2018 ***Christopher Plummer ~ A Memoir***, – a film retrospective for Theatre Museum Canada  
 2015 ***Curse of Clara: A Holiday Tale***, CBC Television - Vickie Fagan, Smiley Guy Studios  
 2013 ***Something's Coming!***–BellMedia/Bravofact  
 2008 ***Finding Body & Soul***, – CBC Television  
 2008 ***Vida y Danza Cuba***, - CTV/Bravo!  
 2006 ***Celia Franca: Tour de Force***, – Bravo! – Sound Venture Productions  
 2005 ***A Pair of RED shorts***, Bravo!FACT – Veronica Tennant Productions  
 2004 ***Shadow Pleasures***, CBC, Bravo!FACT – Veronica Tennant Productions  
 2003 ***a pairing of SWANS***, Canada Council, CBC, Bravo!FACT – Veronica Tennant Productions  
 2003 ***Northern Light – Visions and Dreams***, CBC, Veronica Tennant Productions  
 2002 ***The Dancers' Story: National Ballet of Canada***, CBC Television  
 Co-production with Sound Venture International & Veronica Tennant Productions  
 2002 ***TRIO***, CBC, Bravo!FACT; Veronica Tennant Productions & Dream Machines Inc.  
 2000/2001 ***Governor General's Performing Arts Awards Gala***, CBC Television  
**Prix du Gouverneur general pour les arts de la scene SRC**  
 2001 ***Words Fail!*** Bravo!FACT; Veronica Tennant Productions & Dream Machines Inc.  
 1999 ***Song of Songs*** Bravo!FACT; Veronica Tennant Productions  
 1998 ***Mavis Staines: Courage!...***; Bravo!FACT **Error! Contact not defined.**  
 1999/2000 ***The Four Seasons*** BBC, NHK, CBC, *Bravo U.S.*  
 Co-production with Rhombus Media & Veronica Tennant Productions  
 1998/9 ***Karen Kain - Dancing In The Moment*** CBC Television Production Performance Special  
 1996 ***Margie Gillis - Wild Hearts in Strange Times***  
 CBC Television Production Performance Biography  
 1995 ***Danser Pour La Vie***, SRC Performance Special  
 1994 ***Salute to Dancers for Life*** - CBC Television Production Performance Special

**AWARDS / NOMINATIONS:**

**FOR: CURSE OF CLARA**

2017: Award Canadian Screen Award for Best Animated Film

**FOR: FINDING BODY & SOUL**

2010 Award Silver World Medal - New York Television/Film Festival

**FOR: VIDA Y DANZA CUBA**

2007 Nomination GEMINI Best Direction in Performing Arts Program or Series

Nomination GEMINI Best Production Performing Arts Program

2009 Invitation to screen Havana Film Festival - theatrical and Cuban national television

**FOR: CELIA FRANCA: TOUR DE FORCE**

2006 'Best Dance Film of 2006' - The Toronto Star

**FOR: SHADOW PLEASURES**

2005 Invitation to Screen Dance on Camera Festival, Lincoln Center New York (Jury's Select List)

2005 Awards x7 GOLDEN SHEAF, Yorkton Film and Video Festival

Best of Festival Veronica Tennant Productions and MDF Productions

Producer Peter Gentile, Performing Arts/Entertainment

Director Veronica Tennant, Fiction

Art Director Astrid Janson, Fiction

Editing Andy Attalai, Fiction

Original Music John Gwzowski, Rick Hyslop, and Anne Bourne, Fiction

Photography Paul Tolton, Fiction

Overall Sound Orest Sushko and David Rose, Fiction

2004 Award GEMINI Best Production Design in a non-dramatic Program

2004 Nomination GEMINI Best Direction in Performing Arts Program or Series (Veronica Tennant)

2004 Nomination GEMINI Best Photography in a Performing Arts Program or Series (Paul Tolton)

2004 Nomination GEMINI Best Editing in a Performing Arts Program or Series (Andy Attalai)

2004 Nomination ROCKIE Award: Banff Television Festival – Performance

2004 Invitation to Screen *The Cinnamon Peeler* World Wide Short Film Festival,

2004 Invitation to Screen Nappa Valley Film Festival, The Maine Film Festival

2004 Theatrical Release *The Cinnamon Peeler* [short], ahead of Robert Altman's *The Company*

**FOR: A PAIRING OF SWANS**

2005 Nomination GEMINI Best Direction in a Performing Arts Program-Series (Veronica Tennant)

2005 Nomination GEMINI Best Performance-Performing Arts Program (Evelyn Hart, Rex Harrington)

**FOR: NORTHERN LIGHT: VISIONS AND DREAMS**

2003 Nomination GEMINI Best Sound in a Performing Arts program (David Rose)

**FOR: THE DANCERS' STORY**

2002 Nomination GEMINI Best Direction in a Performing Arts program (Veronica Tennant, Mark Adam)

**FOR: TRIO**

2002 Award GEMINI for Best Photography in a Variety, Comedy or

Performing Arts program or documentary (Roger Vernon)

2002 Nomination GEMINI for Best Editing - Performing Arts program or documentary, (Rik Morden)

2002 Award AMPIA Award: 2002 Best Short or Vignette

2001 Fellowship Paul D. Fleck Fellowship in the Arts/ The Banff Centre to produce/direct

**FOR: THE FOUR SEASONS**

2001 Award Telefilm English language Award:, Banff Television Festival 2001  
2001 Nomination ROCKIE Award: – Best Performance Program  
2001 Nomination GEMINI Awards; Best Performing Arts program; (also, Best Director, Best Editing, Best Photography categories)  
2001 Award GEMINI Best Performance in a Performing Arts Program - Rex Harrington

**FOR: KAREN KAIN - DANCING IN THE MOMENT**

1999 Award: International EMMY Award: for Best Performing Arts Program  
Award: Gemini Awards: Best Sound Editing - Performing Arts Program (Ron Searles)  
Nomination: GEMINI Awards: Best Performing Arts Program  
Nomination: GEMINI Awards: Karen Kain *for* Best Performance in a Performing Arts Program or Series

**FOR: MARGIE GILLIS - WILD HEARTS IN STRANGE TIMES**

1998 Silver Medal New York Television & Film Festival  
1998 Award: Margie Gillis; Best Performance in a Performing Arts Program or Series  
Nomination: GEMINI Awards: Best Performing Arts Program  
Nomination: GEMINI Awards: Best Picture Editing in a Performing Arts Program  
Chrysler's Canada's People's Choice: Finalist - (for largest broadcast audience, nationally in category Performing Arts Special, Documentary or Series.)

1998 Honorable Mention: Columbus International Film and Video Festival.

**FOR: SALUTE TO DANCERS FOR LIFE**

1996 Certificate of Merit: Golden Gates Awards Competition, San Francisco Int. Film Festival  
1996 Honorable Mention: Columbus International Film and Video Festival.  
1996 dance screen 96 JURY Short List [Stage/Studio Recording]

**TELEVISION DIRECTING CREDITS:**

2012 *Something's Coming!* - BellMedia/BravoFACT +online  
2012 *Sonia Rodriguez: Tribute Canada's Walk of Fame* – Global Television  
2011 *Mordecai Richler: Tribute Canada's Walk of Fame* – Global Television  
2011 *Roberta Bondar: Tribute Canada's Walk of Fame* – Global Television  
2010 *Sarah Polley: Tribute Canada's Walk of Fame* – Global Television  
2008 *Finding Body & Soul* – CBC Television  
2008 *Vida y Danza Cuba* - CTV/Bravo!  
2006 *Celia Franca: Tour de Force*  
2005 *A Pair of RED shorts* – Bravo!  
2005 *Rex Harrington: Tribute Canada's Walk of Fame* - CTV  
2004 *Shadow Pleasures* CBC, Bravo!FACT  
2004 *Diana Krall: Tribute Canada's Walk of Fame* - Global Television  
2003 *a pairing of SWANS* Bravo!FACT, CBC  
2003 *Northern Light – Visions and Dreams* CBC  
2002 *Cirque du Soleil; Tribute – Canada's Walk of Fame* - Global Television  
2002 *The Dancers' Story: National Ballet of Canada* - CBC



- 2002 *TRIO* CBC, Bravo!FACT  
2000 *'Words Fail'* Bravo!FACT  
1999 *Song of Songs*, Bravo!FACT, NFB filmmakers assistance  
1998 *Mavis Staines - "Courage..."* Toronto Arts Awards 1998, Bravo!FACT  
1998 *Karen Kain: Dancing In The Moment* CBC [Winnipeg Performance Sequences]  
1992 Items for: *Sunday Arts Entertainment* CBC  
1. *Dance of Hands: The School of Classical Thai Dance, Bangkok*  
2. *Penny Berton in Bali; A Personal Journey*
- 

**FELLOWSHIPS / SCREENINGS:**

- 2019 *Karen Kain: Dancing in the Moment*, Hot Docs, Toronto  
2019 *Christopher Plummer ~ A Memoir*, Hot Docs, Toronto  
2019 *Christopher Plummer: A Memoir* Winter Garden Theatre – Theatre Museum Canada  
2008 Invitation to screen Havana Film Festival *Vida y Danza, Cuba*  
2006 Talent Lab Juror, Toronto International Film Festival  
2005 Talent Lab Participant, Toronto International Film Festival  
2005 Chancellor's Distinguished Fellowship, University of California, Irvine  
Veronica Tennant film Retrospective at UCI Dance Film Festival  
2005 Screening, *Shadow Pleasures* (3 shorts) Lincoln Center New York, Dance on Camera  
Festival - Tribute to Bravo!FACT 'Best of' 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
2001 Paul Fleck Fellowship, Banff Centre (inaugural year)  
1999 Women in the Director's Chair, Banff Centre
- 

**DIRECTOR'S REEL, FURTHER CLIPS + BIOS + CV at:**

<https://veronicatennant.com>