



Statement

NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE FLAG FLIES AT HALF-MAST IN HONOUR OF CANADIAN THEATRE ICON ALBERT MILLAIRE

August 15, 2018 – OTTAWA – The National Arts Centre mourns the loss of award-winning actor and director Albert Millaire. He was 83.

Mr. Millaire had a significant impact on the cultural life of Canada, having received their country's highest distinction in the performing arts, the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2006.

The National Arts Centre's flag will fly at half-mast this week in honour of Albert Millaire.

Actor, director and *artiste engagé*, Albert Millaire appeared on stage, on television and in films, working with equal ease in English and French. In a career spanning over six decades he witnessed some of the great moments in the evolution of Canadian theatre, and his elegant, compelling presence and huge, rolling voice have etched him indelibly in the public imagination.

Born in Montreal in 1935, Mr. Millaire studied at the Collège de l'Assomption and the Conservatoire d'art dramatique du Québec. Immediately after his graduation in 1956, Gratien Gélinas and the Théâtre-Club cast him in roles that launched his remarkable career.

He dazzled audiences across Canada, the United States and Europe with his performances in leading roles ranging from the classics (including Shakespeare) to contemporary works. Career highlights include four seasons acting and directing at Stratford in the 1990s; appearing in over a dozen Radio-Canada television dramas, including Pierre Perrault's *Au cœur de la rose*, *Othello*, *Phèdre* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*; and directing numerous operas, plays and musicals. He is the former associate artistic director of the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde and former artistic director of the Théâtre populaire de Québec.

-30-

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Carl Martin
Senior Advisor, Communications
National Arts Centre
613-947-7000, ext. 560