

International Theatre Institute ITI

World Organization for the Performing Arts

UNESCO, 1 Rue Miollis, FR-75732 Paris Cedex 15

info@iti-worldwide.org / www.iti-worldwide.org



Robert Joffrey 1985

International Dance Day 1985 celebrates the importance and universality of Dance from earliest times. This most expressive of art forms has played an important role in the social and spiritual aspects of people's lives. Its profound expressive power has been invested with magic and meaning. Through Dance, humankind has invoked the gods, has celebrated and entertained, has initiated social dialogue.

Dance, in all its splendid and various forms, encompasses the old and traditional with the new and experimental in a rich mosaic that transcends national boundaries.

A Scots Highlander and a Maori tribesman, a Balinese temple dancer and a ballerina, a modern dancer understand one another and communicate freely through their art. We cherish our differences, which only serve to enhance our shared perceptions and similarities.

Dance is a powerful ally for mutual understanding and communication as nations strive for peace, friendship and freedom. May Dance continue to delight and inspire, to enrich the lives of all people of this earth.