

DANCER PEGGY BAKER WINS WALTER CARSEN PRIZE

Peggy Baker, the dancer, choreographer and founder of Toronto's Dancemakers and Peggy Baker Dance Projects, has been announced as the winner of the Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts for 2010. The prize, which is worth \$50,000 and presented by the Canada Council for the Arts, "recognizes the highest level of artistic excellence and distinguished career achievement by Canadian artists who have spent the major part of their career in Canada in dance, theatre or music," according to a CCA press release announcing the honour. Baker, who was born in Edmonton in 1952, has received international rec-

ognition for her work as a dancer and choreographer, and has performed both in and outside of Canada with such artists as Lar Lubovitch, Mikhail Baryshnikov and Mark Morris. "Peggy

Baker is excellence and generosity incarnate," said the official announcement from the Walter Carsen peer assessment committee. "She understands dance from the inside out. She has a huge presence and exquisite physicality in performance. A brilliant creator, a generous teacher and a profoundly honest artist, her passion and commitment have inspired and influenced generations of dancers at home and abroad." *National Post*

