

## SPECIAL FEATURE - PORTRAIT CITT/ICTS 2005 award recipient

Each month StageWorks will feature a portrait of this year's CITT/ICTS Annual Awards Recipients. This month we portray **Eric Fielding** recipient of the CITT/ICTS Honorary Membership Award.

The 2005 World Stage Design exhibition, in Toronto held this spring in conjunction with the OISTAT World Congress and USITT Conference and Trade Expo, was exciting, inspiring and illuminating to everyone who saw it. The quality of the presentation, mounting and curatorial work belied the fact that this was the first ever WSD, none of the people responsible had any experience with this kind of international exhibition, and it was entirely done by volunteer labour.

What made World Stage 2005 possible, in the face of these obstacles, was the work of its first Director, Eric Fielding. A professor at Brigham Young University, Eric Fielding guided the inaugural World Stage Design through many unforeseen problems, as well as compiling five hours of video presentation and editing the exhibition catalogue.

The presence of WSD in Toronto forged closer ties between Canadian designers and the international theatre community. The CITT/ICTS Honorary Membership would be an ideal way to express our appreciation to Professor Fielding for the many months of work he contributed to this event, and through its success, to Canada's place in world theatre design. **Wulf, Prop builder**

I would like to join Wulf in nominating Eric Fielding for Honorary Membership in recognition of the huge achievement in presenting the 2005 World Stage Exhibition in Toronto. It gave many designers from all over the world a very special opportunity for their work to be seen beyond the often limited duration of performances. It gave exposure to a number of talented Canadian designers and for people like myself – gave me an insight into what is happening around the world with stage design.

Eric deserves a special mention for pulling (at times dragging) all the various components together. I was once involved in only a peripheral capacity in an exhibition for the Society of British Theatre Designers – so I have a small inkling of the sheer scale that Eric and his team faced. A tremendous job done that deserves a special recognition. **Julian Sleath, Technical Director Canadian Opera Company**



Julian Sleath, with VP Internal Heather Kent, accepting the CITT/ICTS Honorary Membership Award on behalf of Eric Fielding

THANK YOU - July 12 2005

Dear Heather

I received your letter in the mail yesterday. I am deeply honored by my selection to receive The Honorary Membership Award from CITT/ICTS at this year's conference in Calgary. And I am deeply disappointed that I have to tell you that I will be unable to attend the Awards Ceremony to receive the award in person. Unfortunately, I have a previous engagement from August 12-20. It's one of those situations where I could have come to Calgary most any time before or after, which makes it all the more frustrating for me not to be able to attend. I would love to have been able to attend the conference and, of course, the Awards Ceremony.

I hope you will extend my thanks, appreciation, and disappointment to my Canadian colleagues. World Stage Design 2005 would have been impossible without the contributions of so many of them.

My best wishes to CITT/ICTS for the success of Rendez-vous 2005. Thanks again!

Eric Fielding



First Edition of World Stage Design 2005 at the Royal York in Toronto Ontario March 2005