

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

**Honorary Degree Citations
The degree of Doctor of Fine Arts, *honoris causa*,
conferred on Dr. John Alleyne
Wednesday, June 4, 2003**

Mr. Chancellor, it gives me great pleasure to present Mr. John Alleyne. As a dancer, choreographer and Artistic Director of Ballet British Columbia, he gives new meaning to the words of Paul Strand: "The only great issue is the necessity for the artist to find his way in the world." John Alleyne has found his way as an artist of the first order, and our lives are the richer for it.

Born in Barbados, John Alleyne trained as a dancer with the National Ballet School in Toronto. Upon graduation, he joined the Stuttgart Ballet Company, where his bold performances made an immediate and indelible impression on both audiences and critics. However, John Alleyne's dynamic energy impelled him to look to choreography as a further means of expression. While still in his twenties, he created works that herald