



## GOVERNMENT HOUSE BERMUDA

H.E. Mr John Rankin CMG  
Governor and Commander-in-Chief



The people of Bermuda owe their heritage to many different countries and cultures around the world. From these, Bermuda has pulled the best of their traditions and created its own unique and diverse culture.

In a similar way the Bermuda Festival each year brings together a diverse range of talented artists, both international and local, in the common cause of bringing much that is the best in the Arts to our island.

The Festival, now in its 45<sup>th</sup> year, has become part of the canvas that is Bermuda - a small island in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean with rich diversity, proud to make the Arts accessible to all, young and old, traditional or avant-garde. This year's programme touches on a myriad of creative disciplines including top quality drama, music, dance, theatrical illusion and athleticism. We, the audience, are spoiled for choice and I would encourage you to attend as many performances as possible.

No Festival can be successful without the dedication of its administrators, production team and the many volunteers who help make the performers feel welcome during their brief but busy visits. They provide each artist with transportation, guidance and hospitality during their rare moments of leisure time. We salute all the people behind the scenes who make this celebration of the Arts something of which Bermuda can be proud.

Most of all I salute you, the audience, without whose support there would be no Festival. I hope you enjoy the performances as much as I know I will.

John Rankin