

Marie-Josée Chartier

A versatile artist, whose talents transcend the boundaries of dance, music, opera and multi-media, Marie-Josée Chartier moves easily between her many roles as choreographer, performer, director, vocalist and teacher. Her dynamic choreography is influenced by contemporary music, literature and the visual arts as she explores and deconstructs the vulnerabilities of human beings.

Her acclaimed pieces have been presented at major festivals and by dance companies across Canada, Europe and Latin America. Her work was the subject of several documentary films. Since 2003, in addition to her activities as a performer and choreographer, Marie-Josée directs/stages contemporary opera and multi-media productions for: Gryphon Trio, Toca Loca, Queen of Puddings Music Theatre, Tapestry Opera, Theaturtle and l'Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal (ECM+).

Chartier receives the following awards: Jacqueline Lemieux Prize (2015); K.M. Hunter Artist Award (2001), 9 Dora Mavor Moore Award nominations; recipient of a Dora for fifty- one pieces of silver (2002) and shared two Doras with the collective URGE for And by the way Miss (2005). Marie-Josée formed Chartier Danse in 2003 to support her projects and create a cornerstone for large scale productions and partnerships in Canada and abroad.

Marie-Josée has a long connection to Winnipeg. Firstly, in 2004 and 2007 she created solo works for dancer Jolene Bailie. In 2007, her work, Screaming Popes was presented by WCD and she performed a solo work by Peter Chin for WCD's fundraiser. In 2017, her work petites danses was presented by Gearshifting Performance Works featuring a cast of 16 local dancers. She has also performed with Sick + Twisted Theatre, choreographed for RMTTC's production of Orlando, and is currently working on a new work, Fracas with Margaret Sweatman. She has been a guest teacher at the School of Contemporary Dancers for over ten years in technique classes, voice and choreography and has offered workshops through Young Lungs Dance Exchange and Gearshifting Performance Works. She has taught in various capacities nationally and internationally for over 25 years.