

Margie Gillis

dancer and choreographer

biographical notes – short version

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As choreographer and performer of more than one hundred solo dance works, Margie Gillis has earned rave reviews in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and in South and North America. A passionate and steadfast artist, she has worked with the greatest dancers and artists of her time either including them in her own personal projects or by participating in the productions of her peers. Concerned with the durability of her unique approach to art, Margie Gillis teaches often in different institutions such as the Juilliard School of New York.

Her most recent creation, *Thread*, explores the challenges and miracles woven daily into the complex lace of our path towards maturity and letting-go. It premiered at the National Arts Centre of Canada in 2010.

Margie Gillis has been a Member of the Order of Canada since 1988 and she was appointed Knight of the Ordre national du Québec in 2009. Also, the Canadian and Quebec governments have each given her the honorary title of Cultural Ambassador. In 2001, in recognition of her exceptional contribution to national culture, the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec awarded her their Career Grant. During the 2008-2009 season, which spotlighted the 35th anniversary of Margie Gillis' career, the Canada Council for the Arts awarded her the Walter Carsen Prize for Excellence in the Performing Arts, and the famous Stella Adler Studio of New York gave her their first MAD Spirit Award for Exceptional Humanitarian Actions by an Artist. In May 2011, she received the Lifetime Artistic Achievement Award from the Governor General's Performing Arts Award Foundation.

Margie Gillis' masterful interpretation of the different facets of the human soul has won her loyal audiences over the years. Unwaveringly, her work continues to develop through experimenting, teaching and creating.

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