

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES GINETTE LAURIN

With more than 40 choreographical works to her credit and acclaimed worldwide, Ginette Laurin is one of the foremost figures in contemporary dance in Canada. Trained as a gymnast and in modern dance and classical ballet in Montreal and New York City, Ginette quickly became a sought-after performer when she began her dancing career in Montreal at the beginning of the 1970s. After creating several works as an independent choreographer, in 1984, she founded O Vertigo, a company now known for its expressive power and the unerring realization of its artistic vision. By 1986, consecutive critical and popular successes brought Ginette Laurin national recognition when she was awarded the Jean A. Chalmers Prize. Since then, she has established an enviable international reputation by creating, year after year, striking works in which she shows an extraordinary ability to renew her gestural language and images to better evoke the underlying themes. Her works have been performed in Canada, the United States, Europe, Central America, and Asia. Besides her activities at O Vertigo, Ginette Laurin choreographs dance pieces for other companies and transmits her knowledge as a professor and lecturer at home and abroad.

In recent years, Ginette Laurin has reoriented her approach to embrace creation in multiple forms. *The Resonance of the Double*, created at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal in 2004, constituted a series of six installations incorporating dance, performance, video projections, and photographs, and was representative of the choreographer's new multidisciplinary avenue, which was reaffirmed with the inauguration of the O Vertigo Creation Centre (CCOV) at Place des Arts in 2005. She has also branched into filmmaking, in particular with director Oana Suteu, with whom she created the feature *Wire Frame* (2005), a prize-winning adaptation of the dance piece *Passare*. Ginette's latest choreographical productions, *ANGELs* (2006) and *études #3 pour cordes et poulies* (2007), reflect her commitment to experimentation, collaboration with the dancers, and research relating to --- among other things --- identity and the double.