

CHARTIER DANSE  
and  
The Segal Centre for Performing Arts  
present

STRIA

*A solo show created and performed by Marie-Josée Chartier*

NATIONAL TOUR 2013 – PRESS RELEASE

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On April 9th, 10th and 11th, 2013, Marie-Josée Chartier and her team will bring the acclaimed one-woman show *Stria* to Montreal audiences at the Segal Centre for Performing Arts Studio Theatre. This only Quebec date is part of a national tour which also includes Kitchener, Winnipeg, Vancouver and Ottawa.

The beautiful and unpredictable terrain of the Badlands merges with vivid personal memories in *Stria*, a stunning solo work by the award-winning choreographer and performer Marie-Josée Chartier. Deploying a virtuosic blend of movement, music, text and voice, Chartier travels through a mosaic of evocative images and layers of experience, and touches on themes of nature, love and loss. By turns dark, playful and humorous, *Stria* features a luminous central performance by one of Canada's most respected dance artists, with a rich theatrical landscape created through exquisite design and sound.

'*Stria*' refers to a linear mark or groove on a surface, particularly on rock or skin. Chartier's own visits to the Alberta Badlands prompted her to explore her own personal history and the 'stria' that lie within our own bodies. "*The first trigger was to make a personal piece about my own history as an artist. It was in the process that the Badlands began to infiltrate and provide a container for the work. They gave me a way to build a landscape, about how I view the 'stria' of my own body and from there create a parallel connection to emotional landmarks and nature*", says the Toronto-based creator and performer, Marie-Josée Chartier.

Chartier surrounds herself with an incredible team of collaborators known to Canadian audiences for their contributions to the worlds of dance, theatre and opera and all recipients of numerous awards. Director and dramaturge **Ruth Madoc-Jones**, set designer **Trevor Schwellnus**, sound designer **Thomas Ryder Payne**, lighting designer **Bonnie Beecher**, puppet artist **Mathieu René**, and costume designer **Martha Cockshutt**.

This full evening work premiered on April 28th, 2011 at the Market Hall Theatre in Peterborough with subsequent performances in Toronto at the Enwave Theatre at Harbourfront. *Stria* was enthusiastically received by the press and the audience described as *virtuosic in every way, shape-shifting, unpredictable, moving*.

*"...Stria, a Chartier work made by a dancesmith who probes deeply... a craftsman with radiating artistic integrity..."*

Paula Citron, *Classical 96.3 FM*.

## About Marie-Josée Chartier

A multi-faceted artist, Marie-Josée Chartier moves easily between the worlds of dance, music, opera and multi-media in the roles of choreographer, performer, director, vocalist or teacher. Her choreographic works have been presented in dance series and festivals in Canada, Europe and Latin America and have been featured on documentary films and presented on national television and film festivals.

Her choreographic repertoire is greatly influenced by contemporary visual art, music and literature in terms of concept, composition and dynamic structure. From there, personal themes weave themselves to create works that try to decipher, expose or deconstruct the vulnerability of human beings. She is the recipient of the 2001 K.M. Hunter Artist Award, nine Dora Mavor Moore Awards nominations winning for *fifty-one pieces of silver* and sharing with Urge for *And by the way Miss*. Marie-Josée Chartier is also in great demand as a director of music, multi-media and opera productions and collaborates regularly with Queen of Puddings Music Theatre, the Gryphon Trio, Toca Loca and l'Ensemble Contemporain de Montréal.

In 2003, Marie-Josée Chartier founded Chartier Danse in order to support her creative activities. Acclaimed large scale productions with extraordinary artists came to life such as *Red Brick* celebrating composer Michael J. Baker with Arraymusic, *Contes pour enfants pas sages* with PPS Danse, *Screaming Popes* with fabrik Potsdam, Germany and *Bas-Reliefs* with Danse-Cité including eleven collaborators from Montreal and Toronto.

### MONTREAL PERFORMANCES DATES

@ The Segal Centre for Performing Arts Studio

April 9th, 10th at 8:00 p.m.

April 11th at 1:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$25, reg. \$20, stu/sen/union

[segalcentre.org](http://segalcentre.org) | 514.739.7944

5170 Chemin de la Côte-Sainte-Catherine, Montreal, QC, H3W 1M7

For more details about the production and tour dates: [www.chartierdanse.com/media](http://www.chartierdanse.com/media)

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Media contact:

**Mikael Lavogiez**

tel: 416-707-2491

[admin@chartierdanse.com](mailto:admin@chartierdanse.com)

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#### About the Segal Centre for Performing Arts.

The Segal Centre is a meeting place for all of the performing arts, showcasing the best professional artists from here and abroad and playing a leading role in the artistic development of Montreal's youth and the creation of its cultural legacy. Through theatre, music, dance, cinema and the Academy, the Segal Centre is setting a broad vision by recognizing the importance of building bridges through the arts and supporting multicultural projects in Montreal. The Centre's commitment is to ensure that creativity resonates within our community and that it remains accessible and inspiring each and every day, leading the performing arts world of tomorrow.

[www.segalcentre.org](http://www.segalcentre.org)

