

**Patricia Pérez**

Multidisciplinary artist and mediator

Patricia Pérez first made her mark as a gymnast. She was the national women's gymnastics champion of Venezuela for three consecutive years (1981-1984), and competed at the World Games in Moscow and at the Central American Games in Cuba. She participated as a choreographer in the national team's selection for the Pan-American Games in Caracas. She continued her performing career in contemporary and folk dance with the Coreoarte dance company (under director Carlos Orta), until she moved to Quebec in 1986.

In Montréal, she was part of the distribution team for the production *Le Dortoir*, by Carbonne 14 (Gilles Maheu), and then participated in nine productions with the Nouveau Théâtre Expérimental (Robert Gravel and Jean Pierre Ronfard), including *La Conquête de Mexico*; *Il n'y a plus rien*; *Corps à corps*; and *Thérèse, Tom et Simon*. She also worked in television and cinema with Guy Fournier, on the series "Ent'Cadieux" and "Jamais deux sans toi", and played the lead role of Esperanza in the film *Mathusalem II*, by Roger Cantin.

She was also part of the distribution team for the Quebec touring production of *Notre Dame de Paris* (Maheu-Plamondon) for a year and a half.

She took her multidisciplinary talents to new heights working as a narrator in the production *Union Libre des Amériques* (Spectra), and on a number of other TV and radio productions led by Marie France Bazzo. She also worked in research and creation for the theatre companies Momentum (Dominique Leduc) and Trans-théâtre (Brigitte Poupart).

In the educational field, Ms. Pérez has worked as a dance, capoeira, acrobatics and dance theatre instructor with Building Danse (1987-1990), and has led creation workshops in elementary and secondary schools throughout the CSDM school district (Montreal).

Since retiring from the stage (2003), Patricia Pérez has worked with TOHU, a circus arts training organization in Montréal, as a media artist running PRÉLUDE, a support program for training future performance artists in the Montréal neighbourhood of Saint-Michel. There, she conducts guided circus history tours and collaborates with programming for Falla, Souk and Head-First, among other events.