

## MARIE LABERGE

### In 2013:

Dictionary entry for *Le Robert 2014*.

October 2013: Publication of the novel *Mauvaise Foi (Bad Faith)*.

Launch of the new web site "marielaberge.com."

### In 2011:

Last year of the epistolary novel *Des Nouvelles de Martha*: 100 000 subscribers read the letters.

### In 2010:

October 2010: Publication of the novel *Revenir de Loin (Back from the Brink)*.

### In 2009:

Dictionary entry for *Larousse 2010*.

Year 1 of the novel *Des Nouvelles de Martha* is a success: nearly 42 000 subscribers receive the letters.

### In 2008:

Creation of *Des Nouvelles de Martha*, epistolary novel in the form of personalized letters.

Launch of her web site "www.marielaberge.com."

### In 2007:

- November 2007: She wrote, narrated and participated in the creation of the documentary *Au Cœur d'une Fontaine*, the story of the Tourny Fountain, the great work of art offered to the City of Quebec for its 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary by the Simons family. She wrote the commemorative plaque.
- October 2007: Publication of the novel *Sans Rien ni Personne (Bereft)*.
- May 2007: Songwriter for a ballad for Celine Dion: *Le Temps qui Compte*.

## Biographical Summary:

Marie Laberge was born in Quebec (Province of Quebec, Canada).

This is where she studied. First with the Jesuites, then at Laval University in journalism and information and finally, at the Conservatory of Dramatic Arts, theatre division.

Better known at the start of her career as an actress, she performed the work of many different authors (Brecht, Tchekhov, Garneau, Fassbinder, Laberge, Mishima) gradually devoting more and more to writing and stage direction.

Author of more than twenty (20) plays, of which most have been set to stage, the principal titles are:

- C'était Avant la Guerre à l'Anse à Gilles* (VLB Éditeur, 1981, Boréal, 1995)
- Avec l'Hiver qui s'en Vient* (VLB Éditeur, 1982)
- Ils Étaient Venus pour...* (VLB Éditeur, 1982, Boréal, 1993)
- Jocelyne Trudelle Trouvée Morte dans ses Larmes* (VLB Éditeur, 1983, Boréal, 1992)
- Le Banc* (VLB Éditeur, 1989, Boréal, 1994)
- Deux Tangos pour Toute une Vie* (VLB Éditeur, 1985, Boréal, 1993)
- L'Homme Gris* (VLB Éditeur, 1986, Boréal, 1995)
- Oublier* (VLB Éditeur, 1987, Boréal, 1993)
- Le Night Cap Bar* (VLB Éditeur, 1987, Boréal, 1995)
- Aurélie, ma Soeur* (VLB Éditeur, 1988, Boréal, 1992)
- Le Faucon* (Boréal, 1992)
- Pierre ou la Consolation* (Boréal, 1992)
- Double Mélodie* (unpublished)
- Charlotte ma Sœur* (Boréal, 2005)

She has also written eleven novels: *July* (1989), *Quelques Adieux (A Few Farewells)* (1992), *The Weight of Shadows* (1994), *Annabelle* (1996), *La Cérémonie des Anges (Mass of the Angels)* (1998). The trilogy *Le Goût du Bonheur (A Taste for Happiness)* was published in one year: *Gabrielle* (November 2000), *Adélaïde* (March 2001) and *Florent* (October 2001). *Sans Rien ni Personne (Bereft)* (2007). *Revenir de Loin (Back from the Brink)* (2010), all published by Boréal. Her latest novel, *Mauvaise Foi (Bad Faith)* (2013), is published by Éditions Québec Amérique. In 2003, Anne Carrière Éditeur also published in Paris: *Le Goût du Bonheur (A Taste for Happiness)* (2003), *July* (2004), *Quelques Adieux (A Few Farewells)* (2006). The trilogy is available through Pocket, since 2007.

She wrote a short play, *La Réparation*, which is part of the anthology **20 Ans**, VLB Éditeur, 1985, *Le Cadeau*, short radio theatre created by Radio-Canada, and a short story in **Québec, des Écrivains dans la Ville**, published by Éditions de l'Instant Même and Musée du Québec, June 1995. Following her collaboration with different scriptwriters, she wrote an original 90-minute script, which she produced, in collaboration with Mireille Goulet, for Les Productions du Verseau. The made-for-television movie *Les Heures Précieuses* was aired in Quebec in February 1990.

The list of Quebec stage productions are listed in the published works of theatre. Certain productions are worth mentioning:

- Charlotte ma Sœur** Théâtre Jean-Duceppe, Montreal, 2005
- C'était Avant la Guerre à l'Anse à Gilles** Théâtre de la Commune, Quebec, 1982  
Nouvelle Compagnie Théâtrale, Montreal, 1989  
Théâtre d'Acadie, 1989  
Théâtre Français de Toronto, Ontario, 1992  
Théâtre Jean-Duceppe, Montreal, 1997
- Oublier** Théâtre National de Belgique, stage direction by Jean-Claude Drouot, Brussels, 1987  
Théâtre de la Bordée, Quebec, 1990  
In Dutch, Théâtre de Malines, Belgium, 1991  
Théâtre du Trident, Quebec, 1997  
La Comédie Française, Théâtre du Vieux-Colombier, Paris, stage direction by Daniel Benoin, November 2000. The production was restaged at Comédie de Saint-Étienne, January 2001  
The Artenbrut Company, Barcelona Theatre, staged the play for the Barcelona Greek Festival (Contemporary Theatre) and followed with a series of 30 representations in Barcelona, in Catalan, 2001  
In Spanish (Castilian), on tour in Spain by the Artenbrut Company, Barcelona Theatre, 2002
- L'Homme Gris** Théâtre International de Langue Française, Théâtre de Bobigny, stage direction by Gabriel Garran, Paris, 1986. Followed by Théâtre du Petit Marigny, Paris, 1986 -1987 and on tour in Belgium, France and Switzerland. This production was made into an audiovisual recording by FR-3.  
This production totalled 250 theatrical representations, a first for a dramatic work for adults in France, by a Quebec playwright.  
In English (*Night*), Toronto Free Theatre, 1987  
In Italian (*L'Uomo Grigio*), Teatro Due di Parma, Italy, 1988  
In Dutch, Hanover Theatre, the play has been part of the repertory since 1989 and is staged a dozen times a year. The play is also translated into Latvian and German and has been staged in both of these languages.  
The English translation by Rina Fraticelli was published by Methuen, England, Volume 7 of the anthology *Plays by Women*, Sept. 1988

The retouched version for European French (collaboration of Jacques de Decker) was published in the magazine *Avant-Scène Théâtre* No. 785

**Aurélie, ma Sœur** In English (*Aurelie, my Sister*), translation by Rina Fraticelli, National Arts Centre, Ottawa, and Centaur Theatre, Montreal, 1993  
In English, Gate Theatre, stage direction by Lawrence Boswell, London, 1994  
In German, Kellertheater Winterthur, Switzerland, 2001

**Le Faucon** In German, Kellertheater Winterthur, Switzerland, 2001  
In Italian, restaging of the production, Teatro Libero di Palermo, Palermo, Milan, Naples, Pescara and Cagliari, 2000-2001  
Catalan translation finished, 2000  
Théâtre International de Langue Française, Théâtre de la Villette, stage direction by Gabriel Garran, Paris. Followed by Théâtre Dejazet, Paris and on tour in France, Switzerland and Belgium, 1996-1998  
In German, Meiningen, 1999  
In Portuguese, Porto, 1999  
In Italian, Rome, Palermo and Catania, 1999  
Théâtre Français de Toronto, 2000

**Le Banc** Théâtre de la Bordée, Quebec, 1996

*Oublier* received the award for Best theatre production in Brussels 1987-88 (Ève du Théâtre, determined by critical review). It was turned into a made-for-television drama by Radio-Canada in 1992. Marie Laberge earned a Gemini award for her television adaptation of this play.

Many of her texts have been translated:

*L'Homme Gris*: in English, Dutch, Italian, German and Latvian.  
*Oublier*: in English, Dutch, Catalan and Spanish.  
*C'était Avant la Guerre à l'Anse à Gilles*: in English.  
*Aurélie, ma Sœur*: in English and German.  
*Deux Tangos pour Toute une Vie*: in English.  
*Le Faucon*: in German, Italian, Portuguese and Catalan.  
*Jocelyne Trudelle Trouvée Morte dans ses Larmes*: in English.

Marie Laberge is responsible for the stage direction, other than of her own works, of many Quebec and foreign authors.

- Marie Laberge has taken part in numerous colloquiums, delivered talks at many university conferences, and has sat on different committees and juries (Ministry of Cultural Affairs Quebec, Canadian Council of Arts, Telefilm Canada).
- She was part of the organisational committee of the États Généraux du Théâtre Professionnel au Québec, was vice-president of the Conseil Québécois du Théâtre (1983-86) and president of the Centre d'Essai des Auteurs Dramatiques (1987-89).
- She was part of a group of consultants named by the Deputy Premier and Minister of Cultural Affairs, Lise Bacon (1990-91).
- She was a member of the Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec from its beginning in 1992 to January 1995.
- She has also been honorary president of several book fairs in Quebec and has participated in book fairs overseas, particularly in Europe.
- She was the spokesperson for Francofête in 1997, week of French language and culture.
- She was honorary president, alongside Huguette Oigny, of the Fondation Gratien Gélinas Award, from 1999 to 2006.

Marie Laberge has received many awards:

- Second prize short film from the Communauté Radiophonique des Programmes de Langue Française for her play *Éva et Évelyne* (1981).
- The Governor General's Award (1981) for *C'était Avant la Guerre à l'Anse à Gilles*.
- She was named "Knight of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres" (1988) by the Minister of Cultural Affairs of France for her contribution to French culture.
- She received the Raymond Blais Medal (1989) awarded by Laval University to an alumnus who has earned distinction through remarkable progress in his or her field.
- She received the Woman of the Year 1990 in the arts by the Salon de la Femme de Montréal. She also received a special tribute at this same fair in 1997.
- She won the Reader's Choice Award from *Elle Québec* 1993 for her novel *Quelques Adieux*.
- She received the Gemini for Best Script, Television Drama, for *Oublier* in 1993.
- She received the People's Choice Award from the Salon du livre de Trois-Rivières three times, in April 1997, 1999 and 2001 for three of her novels.
- She received the Bookseller's Award 1997 for *Annabelle*.
- She received the Ludger-Duvernay Award 1997 from the Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste for the body of her work. This prize is awarded every three years.
- She received the People's Choice Award / La Presse from the Salon du livre de Montréal for her novel *Annabelle* in 1998.
- She received the Bookseller's Award 1999 for *La Cérémonie des Anges*.
- She was named "Grande Québécoise en Culture" for the year 2000 by the Académie des Grands Québécois de Québec (organisation created by the Quebec Chamber of Commerce).
- She received the People's Choice Award / La Presse 2001 from the Salon du livre de Montréal for her trilogy *Le Goût du Bonheur*.
- She received the Archambault Great Literary Award 2002 (people's choice) for *Gabrielle* and *Adélaïde* of the trilogy *Le Goût du bonheur*.
- She was named "Knight of the Order of La Pléiade" by the Assemblée de la Francophonie in March 2002.
- She was named "Knight of the Ordre National du Québec" in June 2004.
- She was named "Officer of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres" by the French government in September 2004.
- She received the Archambault Great Literary Award 2008 (people's choice) for *Sans Rien ni Personne*.
- She received the People's Choice Award / La Presse 2011 from the Salon du livre de Montréal for *Revenir de Loin*.
- She received the People's Choice Award Alouette 2011, Salon du livre de la Côte-Nord for *Revenir de Loin*.

Marie Laberge is a member of the S.A.R.D.E.C., of the Union des Artistes, of the Centre des Auteurs Dramatiques, of the Société des Auteurs Compositeurs Dramatiques, of the Pen Club of the SACEM and the Union des Écrivains.

In the course of her career, Marie Laberge has benefited from various short-term grants and from an A Grant from the Canada Council for the Arts in 1992. From July to December 1995, she was granted the studio of the Société des Gens de Lettres in Paris, which is made available to a Quebec writer.

In May and June 1995, at the request of Quebec Premier Mr. Jacques Parizeau, she wrote the foreword to the Quebec Declaration of Independence, in collaboration with, among others, Gilles Vigneault, Fernand Dumont and Jean-François Lisée.