

Monique Mercure

1930-2020

1993 Lifetime Artistic Achievement (Theatre)

Monique Mercure, one of Canada's most prolific theatre and film actresses, has passed away. She was 89. Ms. Mercure was a force of nature who acted in classic Canadian films and performed on stages around the world. She served as both artistic director and general director of the National Theatre School. She was truly one of Canada's most profound and talented performers.

Ms. Mercure received a Governor General's Performing Arts Award in 1993. From early on in her career, she worked or trained with many GGPAA laureates. She starred in Jean Beaudin's classic film *J.A. Martin photographe* and went on to win the Palme d'or for best actress at the Cannes Film Festival. She won a Genie for her work in David Cronenberg's *Naked Lunch*. She also worked with André Brassard, trained with the late Ludmilla Chiriaeff, and worked with 2019 laureate Lorraine Pintal, the late Jean-Pierre Ronfard, the late Jean-Louis Roux and Michel Tremblay. After receiving a GGPAA, Ms. Mercure went on to serve as co-chair of the GGPAA Foundation's board of directors from 1995 to 2006.

She may be best remembered for her role in Claude Jutra's *Mon Oncle Antoine*. Ms. Mercure played the role of matriarch Édith Beauchamp in the much loved Ici Radio-Canada Télé series "Providence" for seven seasons, from 2005 to 2011. She was made a Companion of the Order of Canada, received the Gascon-Thomas Prize, the Denise-Pelletier Prize, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Toronto.

She was a very active member of the GGPAA Foundation's board of directors. All involved with the Foundation enjoyed seeing her at our events thanks to her wit and sense of humour. She will be greatly missed. We send our deepest condolences to Ms. Mercure's family.