

MARGO KANE is a multi-disciplinary performer of Saulteaux/Cree/Blackfoot ancestry. Her training as a dancer, singer, actress prepared her for mainstream theatre as a "triple threat" and subsequent workshops prepared her for work in film and TV. Working as a performing artist, director, choreographer and teacher over 15 years, her work of the last 8 has been primarily in and with the native communities all across this country. Using theatre as a tool for healthy self-expression and in the development of communication skills, Margo has been part of a growing movement on and off reserve that recognizes the importance of creative expression in human development. REFLECTIONS IN THE MEDICINE WHEEL was her first one-woman show prepared in '86 and toured to various native communities before being presented at the FESTIVAL DE THEATRE DES AMERIQUES in Montreal '87. Based on her own search for balance using traditional Native methods, REFLECTIONS was about the process of recovery; the embodiment of a wholistic approach to life.

Opportunities to work in Montreal in LILY OF THE MOHAWKS and ATISKENANDEHATE: JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF THE DEAD provided inspiration. Surrounded by good dance and innovative theatre Margo began to use her interdisciplinary roots to access her creative voice. Finding her voice, giving voice and inspiring voice is what her work has been about as of late. MOONLODGE, her one-woman show that has left audiences raving will be produced in Toronto this November. A journey of a Native fosterchild told with humour and sensitivity, it is as much her story of separation and repatriation, as it is many of her people.

Two summer '90 pieces were her return to work started early in her movement and theatre experiments. FOUR DAYS, FOUR NEW DIRECTIONS curated by Leonard Fisher at the PITT INTERNATIONAL GALLERIES gave her the opportunity to explore performance - part of her early theatre and movement experiments while in college. Inspired by a recent trip to Berlin and the Meech Lake events, O ELIJAH was an intuitive assembling of elements: slides of newspaper headlines and flags, white masks, die and alarm clock combined with the singing of O Canada to Indian drum and cabaret songs evoking the fascist era in Germany. Another piece created for the STEIN VALLEY FESTIVAL came out of authentic bodywork where memories became released - memories that were used to trace the journey from oppression through to liberation and celebration. Using a childhood nursery rhyme, poetry of memories and a music score composed by Russell Wallace, Margo invited other Native performing artists to participate as a chorus and together they created WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HERE. This has been a year of initiating FORUMS on CULTURAL APPROPRIATION and planning with the WOMEN in VIEW PERFORMING ARTS FESTIVAL. It is a year that combines her need to create art and community. Just the beginning, she says.