

Susan McEachern - Clip 4

Studying Theatre and Photography

I think early on, at Hamline University, a BA in Theatre, and although I did a certain amount of performance, really it was design, and it was lighting, and it was the making of things... which I did then and taught in that area for a while after graduation. I think theatre addressed a lot of human concerns, which seem to be continuing in my current work. Theatre asked a lot of questions, it demonstrated, you know, the narrative demonstrated a lot of the complexities of human existence. I think that was very appealing to me, as well as the group, always working, you know, part of a team, feeling that you know the show must go on, and all those lovely things that make you feel so needed.

After working for a couple of years in performing arts, teaching at a place called The Performing Arts Learning Centre which was a wonderful, wonderful experience... a good friend of mine, Linda, who is the canoe person in the work, talked to me about this amazing place called The Banff Centre...

I signed up for a class called The Zone System, you know, something that I had only experienced in books, trying to dig through what...what on earth you know this could all mean, and I was so enthralled by that experience. The experience of photography was one thing, but of course going to Banff as most

people, you know, living in Canada know who have gone there, it is a... just a remarkably beautiful place. And so I was really swept away by that experience, and you know swept away in a way that I did not return to Minnesota, I remained in Canada from 1975 and ended up trying to launch my career out east at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

