

Eve Gentry

Eve Gentry (died June 17, 1994 at age 84) was a modern dancer who helped found the **Dance Notation Bureau** in New York City and later established in 1991 with Joan Breibart and Michele Larsson the **Institute for the Pilates Method** in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She was an original disciple of **Joseph Pilates**, and a master teacher of his technique to generations of instructors.

Miss Gentry grew up in **San Bernardino, California**, and was studying in Los Angeles when **Martha Graham** saw her perform and offered her a scholarship in New York City. Miss Gentry performed with **Hanya Holm's** New York company from 1936 to 1942, and later founded her own group, the **Eve Gentry Dancers**. She danced under the name **Henrietta Greenhood** until 1945, when she professionally adopted **Gentry**, her husband's surname.

Her concern for preserving choreography led her to establish the **Dance Notation Bureau** in New York in 1940, with **Ann Hutchinson Guest**, **Janey Price** and **Helen Priest Rogers**. She was also a charter faculty member of the **High School for the Performing Arts**.

Persistent back and knee problems led her to investigate, and later teach, a system of physical conditioning devised by **Joseph Pilates**. She taught "Contrology" at the **Pilates Studio** in New York from 1938 through 1968. Gentry also taught "Pilates" in the early 1960s at **New York University's, Tisch School of the Arts Theater Department**. In 1968 she moved to New Mexico, where she established a **Pilates Studio** on **Camino de la Luz** and, in 1991, an institute devoted to the **Pilates method**.

In 1979, she was given the "Pioneer of Modern Dance Award" by **Bennington College**. She was also deemed a **Living Treasure** by the State of New Mexico. She died on June 17, 1994, at her home in Santa Fe. She was 84.

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