

GESEL MASON

Curriculum Vitae

Associate Professor of Dance, Department of Theatre and Dance
WIN 2.132, University of Texas Austin
www.geselmason.com

EDUCATION

- 2012-2013 **University of Colorado Boulder**, Boulder, CO
- M.F.A. in Dance
 - Primary emphasis – Choreography and Performance; Secondary Emphasis – Ethnic Studies
- 1990-1995 **University of Utah**, Salt Lake City, UT
- B.F.A. in Modern Dance
 - Teacher's Certification in Secondary Education: Major - Modern Dance, Minor - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2018-present **University of Texas at Austin**, Austin, TX
- *Associate Professor of Contemporary Dance Technique and Choreography:* Instructor of graduate and undergraduate classes in Dance technique, choreography, improvisation, and dance studies
 - Graduate Coordinator, M.F.A. in Dance
 - *Affiliate Faculty* in African and African Diaspora Studies
- 2013-2018 **University of Colorado Boulder**, Boulder, CO
Assistant Professor of Dance: Instructor of graduate and undergraduate classes in Dance technique, choreography, improvisation, and dance studies
- 2008-2011 **University of Maryland**, College Park, MD
Adjunct Faculty: Fall 2008 – Spring 2009: Intermediate Modern Technique
Adjunct Faculty: Spring 2011: Intermediate Modern Dance Technique, Principles of Teaching

AWARDS / HONORS / GRANTS

- 2020 National Endowment for the Humanities' Digital Humanities Advancement Grant for *No Boundaries* in "Prototyping an Extensible Framework for Access to Dance Knowledge." In partnership with the University of Alabama. Co-project director with Rebecca Salzer. (\$99,996)
- 2020 New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project Production Grant for *Yes, And* (\$66,500)
- 2020 Texas Performing Arts and Fusebox Residency for *Yes, And* (\$50,000)
- 2020 UT Austin College of Fine Arts Distinguished Research Award (\$5,000)
- 2020 Screendance of *No Boundaries: Dancing the Legacies of Black Choreographers* selected for 2021 Denton Black Film Festival (DBFF)
- 2020 National Performance Network Development Fund for *Yes, And* (\$8,000)
- 2020 Selected by Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP) to participate in the Biennale de la Danse in Marrakesh, Morocco
- 2020 Selected for Jacob's Pillow, Pillow Lab residency for *No Boundaries* (\$2,000 + housing)

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- 2020 Carla Fund for *Yes, And* (\$2,000)
- 2020 National Performance Network Documentation & Storytelling Award for *No Boundaries* (\$3,000)
- 2019 UT Austin Humanities Research Grant for *No Boundaries* (\$15,000)
- 2019 Selected for Rauschenberg Artist Residency, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, Captiva, FL
- 2019 National Performance Network Creation Fund for *Yes, And* (\$18,000)
- 2019 UT Austin College of Fine Arts Faculty Creative Research Award for *No Boundaries* (\$5,000)
- 2019 Ragdale Themed Residency for *Yes, And*
- 2019 Alan M. Kriegsman Dance Place Residency for *Yes, And* (\$2,500)
- 2018 UT Austin Office of the Vice President for Research Special Research Grant (\$750)
- 2018 *No Boundaries* featured on NPR (All Things Considered), Colorado Public Radio and Sightlines
- 2018 CU Boulder Research & Innovation Seed Grant Program for *No Boundaries* (\$50,000)
- 2018 Whiting Public Engagement Fellowship mini-grant for *No Boundaries* (\$5,000)
- 2018 Archive Transformed Residency for *No Boundaries*, CU Boulder (\$3,500)
- 2018 Nominated by students and Department of Theatre & Dance for Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award
- 2018 Selected for Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP) Artist Institute, New York, NY
- 2017 Selected as one of 14 CU Boulder ASSETT Faculty Fellows (\$3000)
- 2017 CU Boulder Arts & Science Fund for Excellence for *No Boundaries* (\$1,000)
- 2017 CU Boulder GCAH Creative Research Grant for *No Boundaries* (\$3,000)
- 2017 CU Boulder Kayden Research Award for *No Boundaries* (\$3,000)
- 2017 CU Boulder Outreach Award for CU Boulder Department of Theatre & Dance, Dance Outreach (with Sowah, Wilkins, Mejia and Posnik)
- 2017 CU Boulder Program Fee Grant to bring Guest Artist Ralph Lemon (\$500)
- 2017 CU Boulder ACE Grant for Guest Artist Jesse Manno (\$700)
- 2016 CU Boulder GCAH Creative Research Grant for *No Boundaries* (\$3,000)
- 2016 CU Boulder Arts & Science Fund for Excellence for *No Boundaries* (\$1,000)
- 2016 CU Boulder Program Fee Grant to bring Guest Artist Jeffrey Gunshol (\$1,300)
- 2016 NEA Arts Work with 651 ARTS for *No Boundaries* documentary (\$30,000)
- 2015 CU Boulder GCAH Creative Research Grant for *antithesis* research (\$3,000)
- 2015 CU Boulder Arts & Science Fund for Excellence for *antithesis* research (\$1,000)
- 2015 Map Fund for *antithesis* (\$23,868)
- 2015 CU Boulder President's Fund for the Humanities for [UN]W.R.A.P: *No Boundaries* symposium (\$3,000)
- 2015 CU Boulder IMPART Faculty Fellowship for [UN]W.R.A.P: *No Boundaries* symposium (\$4,000)
- 2015 CU Boulder Diversity & Excellence Grant for [UN]W.R.A.P: *No Boundaries* symposium (\$3,000)
- 2015 CU Boulder GCAH Visiting Artist Fund for Dr. Brenda Dixon Gottschild for [UN]W.R.A.P: *No Boundaries* symposium (\$1,000)
- 2015 CU Boulder Program Fee Grant to bring Guest Artist Jaamil Kosoko for UN]W.R.A.P: *No Boundaries* symposium (\$1,750)
- 2015 Finalist for the Princeton Arts Fellowship at the Lewis Center, Princeton University
- 2015 Finalist for New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project Production Grant
- 2014 Roser Visiting Artist Grant for Millicent Johnnie residency (\$8,635)
- 2014 CU Boulder GCAH Creative Research Grant for presentation at Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (\$2,960)
- 2014 CU Boulder Arts & Science Fund for Excellence for presentation at Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (\$1,000)
- 2014 CU Boulder Program Fee Grant for Guest Artist Tim O'Donnell (\$1,500)
- 2014 CU Boulder ACE Grant for Guest Artist Tim O'Donnell (\$1,000)
- 2014 CU Boulder ACE Grant for Guest Artist Helanius Wilkins (\$1,000)
- 2014 Roser Visiting Artist Mini Grant for guest artist Tim O'Donnell (\$500)

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- 2014 Roser Visiting Artist Mini Grant for guest artist Helanius Wilkins (\$1,000)
- 2013 CU Boulder Program Fee Grant to bring in Israeli guest artist/Gaga teacher Uri Shafir (\$3,100)
- 2012 Center for Humanities and the Arts (CHA) Student Fellow, University of Colorado Boulder (\$47,500)
- 2011 Rockefeller Residency Initiative, one of six choreographers selected by the Joyce Theater (NYC)
- 2011 CU Boulder Roser Visiting Artist Mini Grant to be guest artist (\$1,000)
- 2011 Pokoik Visiting Artist Grant to be guest artist at CU Boulder (\$1,000)
- 2010 CU Boulder Program Fee Grant to bring *Women, Sex and Desire* to CU (\$3,300)
- 2009 National Performance Network Creation Fund for *Women, Sex and Desire* (\$10,000)
- 2009 Washington Performing Arts Society Pola Nirenska Memorial Award for Contemporary Achievement in Dance
- 2009 University of Utah College of Fine Arts Inaugural Distinguished Alumni Award
- 2008 Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award (\$6,000)
- 2008 Prince George's Arts Council Individual Artist Award (\$3,000)
- 2007 New England Foundation for the Arts Touring Grant for *NO BOUNDARIES* (\$40,000)
- 2007 Metro DC Dance Awards for Outstanding Individual Performance and Outstanding Overall Production – Small Venue for *NO BOUNDARIES*
- 2007 John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Millennium Stage Local Dance Commissioning Project for *Whose Body Is This?: Scars and Healing*.
- 2005 Arts Council of Montgomery County Artist Fellowship in Solo Dance Performance/Choreography (\$1,000)
- 2005 Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award (\$3,000)
- 2004 NEA Heritage grant to add David Rousseve and Donald McKayle for *NO BOUNDARIES* (\$5,000)
- 2004 Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award (\$1,000)
- 2003 Scholarship recipient to Jacob's Pillow Choreography for the Screen Workshop
- 2002 Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award (\$1,000)
- 2002 Dance/USA National College Choreography Initiative to set a work on the University of Memphis
- 2002 Metro DC Dance Award for Outstanding Artistic Direction for *The Story of Sally Hemings*
- 2002 National Performance Network Creation Fund for *NO BOUNDARIES* (\$10,000)
- 2001 Metro DC Dance Award for Outstanding Production in Contemporary Dance for *Grandma's Legacy*
- 2001 National Foundation of Advancement in the Arts Astral Career Grant (\$1,000)
- 2000 Selected Emerging Choreographer for Bates Summer Dance Festival

RESEARCH & CREATIVE WORK

CHOREOGRAPHY - Professionally Produced

(listed by premiere date in bold, subsequent performances listed underneath)

Listings marked with an * were peer-reviewed.

2020 Burst!*

(5 hours, solo with additional virtual performers)

Premiere: ICOSA gallery, Austin, TX and virtually via livestream

Five-hour durational performance that sources the creative expertise of Black women as a transformational practice to mark the transition from 2020 into 2021. Part of *Transmissions* performance exhibit.

2019 No Boundaries: A Journey to Embody and Archive the Work of Black Choreographers

(50 min, solo)

Premiere: Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning, Queens, NY

An evening-length event that tells the story of the making of No Boundaries from the lens of performer and creator Gesel Mason.

2020 American College Dance Association South-Central Conference, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX* (Postponed due to COVID-19)

2020 Fusebox, Austin, TX* (Canceled due to COVID-19)

2019 Josephine (10 minutes, solo)

Premiere: Rauschenberg Foundation, Captiva, FL

2019 10 Questions (10 minutes, duet)

COMMISSION – ClancyWorks Dance Company, Silver Spring, MD

2017 You Don't Say... (20 minutes, group)

COMMISSION - *Footprints* at American Dance Festival, Reynolds Industries Theater, Durham, NC*

2016 antithesis (60 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: *580 Gilpin*, Denver, CO

An evening-length postmodern dance work that attempts to unencumber the erotic from the pornographic. Building on Audre Lorde's *Uses of the Erotic*, the project served as an embodied exploration of sexuality and eroticism. Supported by the Map Fund, with funding from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. This piece is a significant reworking of *(anti)thesis* (2013) and was performed as a work-in-practice.

2017 Dance Place, Washington, D.C.*

2016 Wesley Chapel, Boulder, CO

2016 Museum of Contemporary Art, Presented by Feminism & Co. as a work-in-practice, Denver, CO

2016 CENS###D (12 minutes, group)

COMMISSION - University of Montana, Montana Theatre, Missoula, MT

2016 Gala Performance at Northwest American College Dance Festival, University of Wyoming, Buchanan Center for the Performing Arts, Laramie, WY*

2016 Ghosts of the Erotic (10 minutes, group)

Premiere: Armstrong Center for Dance at Colorado Ballet, Denver, CO

Group piece choreographed for Athena Project's Evening of Dance

2016 Spirit of Enlightenment (promotional video)

COMMISSION - Choreographer for Spirit of Enlightenment promotional video

2015 Lec/Dem or How Do You Spell Femaphobic (12 minutes, group)

Premiere: American College Dance Association Gala performance at University of Northern Colorado* Part TED Talk and deconstructed strip tease, a movement monologue that complicates how the female body is perceived, performed and (re)presented. 10-15 local performers are included in the performance.

2017 "Keynote Performance" for concert entitled, *Momentum: The Impact of African Diasporic Culture Upon Contemporary Dance*, Oscar G. Brockett Theatre, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX (solo for self with guests)

2016 CU Faculty Council LGBTQ+ and Ethnic and Minority Affairs' Symposium *Intersections: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in Research and Teaching*, Charlotte Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO (solo for self with guests)

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- 2016 American Dance Festival Faculty Concert, Reynolds Theatre, Durham, NC (solo for self with guests)*
2015 Dance Place, Washington, D.C.*
2015 American Dance Guild Annual Performance Festival, Ailey Citigroup Theatre, New York City, NY*

2015 *Where We Meet* (15 minutes, duet)

Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C.*

Choreography: Gesel Mason and Tim O'Donnell

A duet co-choreographed and performed with New York-based dancer and choreographer Tim O'Donnell.

2014 *Improvisational Performance* (30 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: *100 Grand*, 100 Grand, New York City, NY

Performed structured improvisation with New York based dancer and choreographer Tim O'Donnell and Arizona State University Faculty Member Eileen Standley, and poet Eden McNutt.

2014 *Instability of Place* (10 minutes)

COMMISSION - Ursinus College Dance Concert Collegeville, PA

Co-created with Tim O'Donnell, commissioned by Ursinus College in Pennsylvania.

2013 *(anti)thesis* (50 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: The Bustop, Boulder, CO

An evening-length postmodern dance work set in a strip-club that attempts to unencumber the erotic from the pornographic. Building on Audre Lorde's *Uses of the Erotic*, the project served as an embodied exploration of sexuality and eroticism. Performed as the final thesis performance requirement toward my Masters of Fine Arts degree in Dance at the University of Colorado Boulder (CU).

2013 *At Buffalo, the musical* (group)

COMMISSION - Atlas Black Box Theater, Boulder, CO

Choreographer for *At Buffalo*, a new musical in development by Amma Y. Gharthey-Tagoe Kootin about the 1901 Buffalo, N.Y. World's Fair, that sheds light on a critical moment in the construction of race and American identity. Presented at University of Colorado Boulder.

2013 *From Emma, With Love* (11 minutes, group)

COMMISSION - Emma Willard School, Troy, NY

A piece created for 13 girls for the 200th Anniversary of the Emma Willard School.

2012 *Work (in progress)* (10 minutes, solo for self)

Premiere: Danspace Project, New York City, NY*

Solo performed for *Where We're Calling From*, an evening curated by Bebe Miller as part of Danspace Project's PLATFORM 2012: *Parallels*.

"Set to the unlikely mix of Jay-Z and Arvo Pärt, her piece combines spoken word, video, and a fluid new-age dance vocabulary with an autobiographical quality to it that speaks directly to her identity as a woman" (Carl Paris, Danspace Project Writer-in-residence).

2012 *VelocityDC Top Ten* (7 minutes, group)

COMMISSION - Sidney Harmon Hall, Washington, D.C.

Created opening number for VelocityDC Dance Festival.

2011 *Next Us* (8 minutes, group)

COMMISSION - Charlotte York Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO

A piece choreographed for seven women for University of Colorado Boulder NeXus Dance Concert

2010 *Women, Sex, and Desire: Sometimes You Feel Like a Ho, Sometimes You Don't* (70 minutes, group + self)

COMMISSION - Premiere: Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, College Park, MD

Explores how women navigate sex, desire, choice, and perception. Dance, personal stories and video imagery combine to tackle powerful personal and political issues under discussion nationwide.

2013 University of Albany, Performing Arts Center Albany, NY

2011 Joyce SoHo, New York City, NY*

2011 University of Colorado Boulder, Atlas Black Box Theater, Boulder, CO

2011 Black Arts Movement Festival, presented by ProArts Collective & Dance Umbrella, Austin Ventures Studio Theater, Austin, TX

2010 *1 Thing, 1 Thing, and Oh...1 More Thing* (5 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: *Winter Heat*, Dance Place, Washington, D.C.*

A trio performed by myself, Kayla Hamilton and Meghan Bowden.

2010 "DANCE: YES WE CAN!" Lansburgh Theatre, Washington, D.C.*

2010 *Inside and Out* (10 minutes, group)

COMMISSION - James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA

A piece choreographed for eight women

2008 *Jestem / I Am* (5 minutes, group)

COMMISSION - XV Annual International Contemporary Dance Conference and Performance Festival, Bytom, Poland

A bilingual (English/Polish) work examining identity with wheelchair users, dancers and non-dancers as part of the Integrated Dance Workshops in Bytom Poland, June 29 - July 12 2008.

2008 *Body Frame* (15 minutes, group)

COMMISSION - Grupa "Hajde da...", Belgrade, Serbia

Developed a performance with Grupa "Hajde da...", a non-profit organization in Belgrade, Serbia, for with people with disabilities, contemporary dancers, and psychologists. Belgrade, Serbia.

2007 *Whose Body Is This?: Scars and Healing* (50 minutes, group + self)

COMMISSION - Premiere: Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.

A multimedia investigation into how people move forward after they've been assaulted by illness. Dance, music, poetry, and video combine to reveal the truth, humor, and journey from disease to ease. A John F. Kennedy Center Millennium Stage Local Dance Commissioning Project.

2007 *On Impact* (group)

COMMISSION - Winona State University, Winona, MN

Selected to perform at American College Dance Festival.

2005 *Giselle Must (Not) Die* (20 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

In my 21st-century spoof of the classical ballet, stilettos replace pointe shoes and losing your man means getting a life, not ending it.

"It's a work that both Carl Jung and Gloria Steinem would applaud" (Washington Post).

2007 Millennium Stage, Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.*

2007 Creative Alliance at The Patterson, Baltimore, MD. Part of Black Expressions: Baltimore!!!

2007 Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Washington, D.C. Part of "EXPRESSIONS SHOWCASE"

2006 Baltimore Theatre Projects, Baltimore, MD. Part of Black Expressions: Dance-Maryland!!!

2006 Publick Playhouse, Cheverly, MD. Part of Black Expressions: Dance-Maryland III!!!

2006 Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Washington, D.C. Part of Capital Fringe Festival

2004 *Is this seat taken?* (5 minutes, group)

Premiere: Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, College Park, MD*

A late seating turns into a humorous interactive trio in the audience. 21st Annual Choreographers Showcase produced by the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission

2002 *A Declaration of (In)Dependence: The Story of Sally Hemings* (75 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

An evening length work surrounding the life of Sally Hemings and her controversial relationship to Thomas Jefferson. It combines historical and artistic perspectives to reveal a complex story of race, politics, slavery, love, and denial.

"[W]ell-conceived and well-played multimedia theater piece...solid, rich, and emotionally resonant" (Washington Post).

2009 Culbreth Theatre, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

2003 Publick Playhouse, Cheverly, MD

2003 Ballroom of the College Union Building Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA

2002 *Ladies First* (7 minutes, solo for self)

Premiere: Different Voices, Schaeffer Theatre, Bates Dance Festival, Lewiston, ME*

2001 *Grandma's Legacy* (60 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

Part documentary and part dance/theatre performance that explores the lives of two grandmothers in Louisiana and Texas during the 40's and 50's. The production takes us beyond the history of segregation to discover a rich tapestry of accomplishments and perseverance.

"Swing, hip-hop, African and modern all comfortably shared the stage...Mason has vision and savvy to tackle a diversity of works." (Washington Post).

1999 *Black Angel* (10 minutes, solo for self)

Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

Solo inspired by the dragging death of James Byrd Jr.

2004 Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL. Performed as part of an installation in the museum.

1999 *No Less Black* (70 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

Dissects stereotypes and social images of Black America through dance and theatrical interludes and explores the complexities of race, color and social responsibility within the African-American community, while finding parallels to our own. "No Less Black" also exists as a five minute dance solo accompanied by a narrator reading a poem written by Gesel Mason.

"[A] quietly powerful poem" (*New York Times*). "[T]he coalescence of movement and text is simple and satisfying" (*Brooklyn Rail*).

2019 Frey Theater, St. Catherine University, Saint Paul, MN (solo, part of *Sister Solo*)

2018 651ARTS and RestorationART, The Billie Holiday Theatre, Brooklyn, NY (solo, part of *No Boundaries*)

2014 SUNY Potsdam, Dunn Dance Theater, Potsdam, NY (solo, part of *No Boundaries*)

2014 University of Albany, Performing Arts Center Albany, NY (solo, part of *No Boundaries*)

2013 Emma Willard School, Troy, NY (solo)

2011 Southern Theatre, Minneapolis, MN (solo, part of *No Boundaries*)

2009 Booker T. Washington HS for the Performing and Visual Arts, presented by South Dallas Cultural Center, Dallas, TX (solo, part of *No Boundaries*)

2009 Culbreth Theatre, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA (solo, part of *No Boundaries*)

2008 ProArts Collective, Austin, TX (solo)

2008 Links Hall, Chicago, IL (solo)

2008 American College Dance Festival Opening Concert, SUNY Brockport, Brockport, NY (solo)

2008 Towson University, Towson, MD (solo)

2007 *Essence of Dance*, Atlas Performing Arts Center, Washington, D.C. (solo)

2004 Mason/Rhynes Productions, Inc. and Historic Lincoln Theatre, Washington, D.C. (solo)

2005 Links Hall, Chicago, IL (solo)

2002 Virginia Commonwealth University, Grace Street Theater, Richmond, VA (Full program)

2000 Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C. (Full program)

1999 *How to Watch a Modern Dance, or What in the Hell Are They Doing on Stage?* (5 minutes, solo for self + narrator)

"Gesel Mason's 'How to Watch a Modern Dance Concert, or What in the Hell are They Doing on Stage?' was even funnier than its title, and wickedly on the mark..." (*Washington Post*)

Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

Ongoing: over 44K views on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KnX76ZfN-Yw>

2018 Dance Place Gala, Washington, D.C.

2014 SUNY Potsdam, Dunn Dance Theater, Potsdam, NY (part of *No Boundaries*)

2014 University of Albany Performing Arts Center Albany, NY (part of *No Boundaries*)

2011 Southern Theatre, Minneapolis, MN (part of *No Boundaries*)

2011 American College Dance Festival Opening Concert, Moscow, ID

2009 Booker T. Washington HS for the Performing and Visual Arts, presented by South Dallas Cultural Center, Dallas, TX (part of *No Boundaries*)

2009 Culbreth Theatre, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA (part of *No Boundaries*)

2009 VelocityDC Dance Festival Washington, D.C.*

2008 ProArts Collective, Austin, TX (part of *No Boundaries*)

1999 *Flava* (solo for self)

"Mason gave...a jamming solo that climaxed in a handstand with her back arched and her feet dangling above her head." (*Dance Magazine*).

Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

2007 Presented by Silesian Dance Theatre at Śląski Teatr Tańca in Krakow, Poland

Additional Choreography Commissions (before 2006)

CityDance Ensemble (D.C.)
Coppin State University (MD)
Community College of Baltimore County at Essex (MD)
Dallas Black Dance Theatre (TX)
Eisenhower Dance Ensemble (MI)
Georgetown University (D.C.)
High School for Performing and Visual Arts (TX)
Largo High School (MD)
Mercyhurst College (PA)
Oakland University (MI)
Sandra Organ Dance Company (TX)
University of Memphis (TN)
University of Utah (UT)

CHOREOGRAPHY - With full-time academic employer

(listed by performance date in bold)

Listings marked with an * were peer-reviewed.

2021 *burst* (50 minutes, group)
via livestream, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

2019 *Renaissance Futura* (15 minutes, group)
Fall for Dance, B. Iden Payne Theatre, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX*

2018 *Student Bodies* (15 minutes, group)
Fall for Dance, B. Iden Payne Theatre, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX*

2018 *You Don't Say* (12 minutes, group)
ACDA Northwest Gala Selection, American College Dance Association, Macky Auditorium Concert Hall, Boulder, CO*

2017 *I've been meaning to tell you...* (20 minutes, group)
The Current, Charlotte Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO

2015 *How to Watch a Modern Dance, or What in the Hell Are They Doing on Stage* (5 minutes, solo for self + narrator)
[UN]W.R.A.P.: *No Boundaries*, Charlotte Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO

2015 *Lec/Dem or How Do You Spell Femaphobic* (12 minutes, group)
The Current, Charlotte Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO

2015 *Beneath the Quiet* (12 minutes, group)
The Current, Charlotte Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO
A trio co-choreographed for three women for University of Colorado Boulder with Tim O'Donnell.

2014 *Lec/Dem or How Do You Spell Femaphobic* (12 minutes, group)
Work-in-progress at "Sexpressions" at the Absinthe House, Boulder, CO

2013 *(anti)thesis* (50 minutes, group + self)
Charlotte Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO

2010 *1 Thing, 1 Thing, and Oh...1 More Thing* (5 minutes, group)

Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, College Park, MD set on four women for University of Maryland

PERFORMANCE - Professionally Produced

(listed by premiere date in bold, subsequent performances listed underneath)

Listings marked with an * were peer-reviewed.

2003 – present *NO BOUNDARIES: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers* (75 minutes, solos)

An evolving repertory of historic and original solo works by several of the nation's leading contemporary African American choreographers, including Dianne McIntyre, Robert Battle, Rennie Harris, Bebe Miller, Donald McKayle, David Roussève, Andrea E. Woods Valdéz, Reggie Wilson, Kyle Abraham, and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, celebrates the diversity of style and vision within Black dance. *NO BOUNDARIES* received a National Dance Project Tour Only Grant in 2008/09 from New England Foundation for the Arts, two Metro DC Dance Awards in 2007, and was supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and National Performance Network.

"Ms. Mason has put together a show that should be required viewing for students of dance history" (*New York Times*).

Solos included in the project are:

- Kyle Abraham – “Don’t Explain”
 - Premiere: The Billie Holiday Theatre, Brooklyn, NY (2018)
- Dianne McIntyre – “Where You Come From”
 - Premiere: Charlotte York Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO (2015)
- Rennie Harris - “You Are Why!”
 - Premiere: "The Current", Charlotte Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO (2013)
- Robert Battle – “Ella”
 - Premiere: Painted Bride Arts Center, Philadelphia, PA (2009)
- Reggie Wilson – “Seeline 'oman”
 - Premiere: Joyce SoHo, New York, NY (2007)
- Donald McKayle - “Saturday’s Child”
 - Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (2006)
- Bebe Miller - “Rain”
 - Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (2006)
- David Roussève - “Jumping the Broom”
 - Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (2006)
- Andrea E. Woods Valdéz – “Belle of the Ball”
 - Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (2004)
- Jawole Willa Jo Zollar - “Bent”
 - Premiere: Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (2004)

Performances:

2020 Fusebox Virtual Festival, Austin, TX

2018 651ARTS and RestorationART, The Billie Holiday Theatre, Brooklyn, NY (Abraham, Harris, McKayle, Miller, Roussève, Zollar)

2015 Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (Harris)*

2014 American Dance Guild Annual Performance Festival, Ailey Citigroup Theatre, New York City, NY (McKayle)*

2014 SUNY Potsdam, Dunn Dance Theater, Potsdam, NY (Harris, McKayle, Zollar)

2014 University of Albany Performing Arts Center, Albany, NY (Harris, McKayle, Zollar)

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- 2011 Southern Theatre, Minneapolis, MN (Zollar, McKayle, Roussève)
- 2011 American College Dance Festival Opening Concert, Moscow, ID (Zollar, Roussève)
- 2009 Atlas Center for the Performing Arts presented by Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (Zollar, Wilson, Roussève)
- 2009 Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C.
- 2009 Culbreth Theatre, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA (Zollar, Roussève)
- 2009 Presented by South Dallas Cultural Center at Booker T. Washington HS for the Performing and Visual Arts, Dallas, TX (Zollar, Wilson, Roussève)
- 2009 Painted Bride Art Center, Philadelphia, PA (McKayle, Miller, Zollar)
- 2009 Presented by Contemporary Dance Theatre at Aronoff Center for the Arts, Jarson-Kaplan Theater, Cincinnati, OH (Zollar, Wilson, Roussève, McKayle)
- 2009 University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT (Zollar, Roussève)
- 2008 ProArts Collective, Austin, TX (Zollar, Wilson, Roussève)
- 2008 Links Hall, Chicago, IL (Roussève)
- 2007 Presented by Silesian Dance Theatre at Śląski Teatr Tańca in Krakow, Poland (Roussève)
- 2007 Long Island University, Kumble Theater for the Performing Arts, Brooklyn, NY (Miller, McKayle, Zollar, Woods, Roussève)
- 2007 Joyce SoHo, New York City, NY (Wilson, Roussève, McKayle, Miller)
- 2007 Winona State University, Winona, MN (Wilson, Roussève, McKayle)
- 2006 Publick Playhouse, Cheverly, MD (Roussève, Zollar, Miller)
- 2006 Salisbury University, Holloway Hall Auditorium, Salisbury, MD (Zollar)
- 2006 Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (Miller, McKayle, Zollar, Roussève, Woods)
- 2006 Davis Theatre, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV (McKayle, Zollar, Roussève)
- 2005 Links Hall, Chicago, IL (Roussève, Zollar, Miller)
- 2005 651 Arts, Brooklyn, NY (Woods, Zollar)
- 2004 Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (Woods, Zollar)
- 2004 University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT (Zollar, Roussève)

2015 *Healing Wars*

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA (two performances)

An investigation of the impact of war on medicine, as seen through an American Civil War nurse and a military surgeon in Iraq. Through dance and theater the project translates themes such as the fear of failure which, to a healer, is a matter of life and death; the way we anesthetize patients with ether, chloroform, opium, or hope; images of battlefield spirits gathering souls as they join the Daughters of Charity at Gettysburg, each drawing strength from its African or European ancestors. I played the role of The Spirit.

Artistic Director, Liz Lerman

2017 University of Southern Florida Theatre, Tampa, FL

2014 *HEARD*

Denver Museum of Art, Denver, CO

Part of the City of Denver's [Biennial of the Americas](#) celebration and in connection with Cave's exhibition at the Denver Art Museum (DAM), HEARD•DAM, the performance featured local performers, life-sized horse Soundsuits, music and movement in an electrifying and inspiring performance.

Artistic Director, Nick Cave

2014 *American College Dance Association Opening Concert*

University of Montana, Missoula, MT

Participated with faculty in a structured improvisation for the opening concert.

PERFORMANCE - With full-time academic employer

(listed by performance date in bold)

2015 ***NO BOUNDARIES: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers***
[UN]W.R.A.P.: *No Boundaries*, Charlotte York Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO (Zollar, Roussève, McIntyre)

2013 ***NO BOUNDARIES: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers***
The Current, Charlotte Irey Theatre, Boulder, CO (Harris)

2014 ***Ubuntu African Festival***
Glenn Miller Ballroom, University Memorial Center, Boulder, CO
Artistic Director, Nii Armah Sowah

PRODUCER - Professionally Produced

(listed by premiere date in bold, subsequent performances listed underneath)

2016 ***antithesis*** (60 minutes, group + self)
Premiere: Produced by Gesel Mason Performance Projects, *580 Gilpin*, Denver, CO
2016 Wesley Chapel, Boulder, CO

2013 ***(anti)thesis*** (50 minutes, group + self)
Premiere: Produced by Gesel Mason Performance Projects, The Bustop, Boulder, CO

1998 - Productions with **Mason/Rhynes Productions (MRP Inc.)** as Co-Founder and Artistic Director
2010 With Co-Founder and Managing Director, Cheles Rhynes, the company produced over 50 events during its 12-year existence. In addition, MRP Inc. assisted independent artists and emerging performing arts groups by creating performance opportunities and providing administrative, artistic and technical theatre support and cultivated partnerships to help artists and organizations do what they cannot do alone. As an arts facilitator, MRP Inc. designed programs in conjunction with schools and community organizations employing the art making process to explore issues relevant to the participants and their community.

Productions included:

- **The Expressions Series** which featured dance, music, and spoken word performances. The series highlighted local and national performing artists of color, including Grammy award-winning artist Erykah Badu, spoken word civil rights activists The Last Poets, and internationally acclaimed dance company Urban Bush Women
- The **Metro DC Dance Awards**, administered by Dance/MetroDC in 2006, and Metro DC Dances, two events to showcase and recognize the diversity of D.C.'s finest in dance
- Co-producing **Masters of West Coast Dance: Ito, Horton, and Lewitzky**, a five-day event with classes, performances and workshops that illuminated the work of three seminal artists: Michio Ito, Lester Horton, and Bella Lewitzky
- Gesel Mason Performance Projects including ***NO BOUNDARIES: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers***
- Touring Serbia and Poland to lead performances and workshops with dancers and non-dancers of mixed abilities including wheelchair users and partially blind participants

2005 *Giselle Must (Not) Die* (20 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: Produced by Mason/Rhynes Productions with Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

2007 Creative Alliance at The Patterson, Baltimore, MD. Part of Black Expressions: Baltimore!!!

2007 Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Washington, D.C. Part of "EXPRESSIONS SHOWCASE"

2006 Baltimore Theatre Projects, Baltimore, MD. Part of Black Expressions: Dance-Maryland!!!

2006 Publick Playhouse, Cheverly, MD. Part of Black Expressions: Dance-Maryland II!!!

2006 Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Washington, D.C. Part of Capital Fringe Festival

2002 *A Declaration of (In)Dependence: The Story of Sally Hemings* (75 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: Produced by Mason/Rhynes Productions with Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

2001 *Grandma's Legacy* (60 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: Produced by Mason/Rhynes Productions with Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

1999 *No Less Black* (70 minutes, group + self)

Premiere: Produced by Mason/Rhynes Productions with Dance Place, Washington, D.C.

2004 Mason/Rhynes Productions, Inc. and Historic Lincoln Theatre, Washington, D.C. (solo)

PRODUCER - With full-time academic employer

(listed by premiere date in bold)

2015 [UN]W.R.A.P.: *No Boundaries Symposium* (weeklong)

Premiere: Charlotte Ire Theatre, Boulder, CO

A week-long symposium presenting a diversity of dance by prominent African American choreographers, alongside conversations about the historical impact and ongoing contributions of their work to America's cultural landscape. Guest Artists & Scholars included: Dr. Amma Y. Ghartey-Tagoe Kootin, Dr. Thomas DeFrantz, Dr. Brenda Dixon Gottschild, Jaamil Olawale Kosoko, David Roussève, Dianne McIntyre, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, and Rennie Harris.

2013 *(anti)thesis* (50 minutes, group + self)

Charlotte Ire Theatre, Boulder, CO

PUBLICATIONS

2019 "No Boundaries: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers" Collection on *Google Arts & Culture*: <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/651-arts-no-boundaries>

2018 "Remembering Donald McKayle" Clark Center NYC, 2018. Electronic Newsletter.

2017 "A College Degree: What is It Good for?" *Bourgeon EBook: Sixty Five Artists Write About Their Work*. Ed. Robert Bettmann. Washington, D.C.: Day Eight, 2017. Kindle Edition.

PROFESSIONAL DANCE COMPANY APPOINTMENTS

1998-present **Gesel Mason Performance Projects**: Artistic Director, Gesel Mason

- Founder, Choreographer, Performer
- Choreographed and performed in *antithesis*, *Women, Sex, and Desire: Sometimes You Feel Like a Ho, Sometimes You Don't*; *NO BOUNDARIES: Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers*; *Whose Body Is This?: Scars and Healing*; *Giselle Must (Not) Die*; *A Declaration of (In)Dependence: The Story of Sally Hemings*; *Grandma's Legacy*; *No Less Black*; "Lec/Dem or How Do You Spell Femophobic"; "How to Watch a Modern Dance Concert or What in the Hell Are

Gesel Mason - Curriculum Vitae

They Doing on Stage?"; "Ladies First"; "Black Angel"; "Flava", "never saw It coming", "What If or Not" with Helanius Wilkins

- Performed commissioned solos by Rennie Harris – *You Are Why!*, Bebe Miller – *Rain*, Dianne McIntyre – *Where You Come From*, Donald McKayle – *Saturday's Child*, David Roussève – *Jumping the Broom*, Reggie Wilson – *Seeline 'oman*, Andrea E. Woods Valdéz – *Belle of the Ball*, Jawole Willa Jo Zollar – *Bent*
- Selected works have been performed at **A Dallas Dance Gathering (TX)**, **Dance Africa (D.C.)**, **Diverse Works (TX)**, **Fort Wayne Performing Arts Center (IN)**, **International Association of Blacks in Dance Conference (TX, D.C.)**, the **National Dance Education Organization (MD)**, **Walker Art Center (MN)**.

- 2004-2012 **Cross Performance Group:** Artistic Director, Ralph Lemon
- Company Member
 - Performed works by Ralph Lemon – *4Walls*, *How Can You Stay in the House All Day and Not Go Anywhere*, *Come home Charley Patton*, the third installment of the *Geography Trilogy*
- 2001 **Freefall Repertory Dance Company:** Artistic Directors, Murray Louis and Marilyn Byers
- Guest Performer
 - Performed works by Murray Louis - *Bach Suite*, and Marilyn Byers - *Women of the Aurora Borealis*
- 1996-2000 **Liz Lerman Dance Exchange:** Founding Artistic Director, Liz Lerman
- 1996 – 2000 Company Member, Project Director, Rehearsal Director, Founder and Artistic Director for Teen Exchange (formally Teen Initiative)
 - 2000 – 2011 Rehearsal Director, Guest Performer, Guest Faculty
 - Performed works by Liz Lerman – *Ferocious Beauty: Genome, Hallelujah Project, Getting to Hallelujah, Shehechianu*
 - Performed works by guest choreographers: Bebe Miller - *Blessed*, Victoria Marks - *Dancing to Music*
- 1995 **Umoja African Dance Ensemble:** Artistic Director, Chuck Davis
- Company Member
 - Performed work by Chuck Davis as part of *DanceAfrica America*
- 1994 **Repertory Dance Theatre of Utah:** Artistic Director, Linda C. Smith
- Guest Performer for European Tour
 - Performed works by Doris Humphrey - *Passacaglia and Fugue* and Helen Tamiris – *Dance for Walt Whitman*
- 1993, 1992 **Ririe/Woodbury Dance Company:** Artistic Directors, Shirley Ririe and Joan Woodbury
- Guest performer
 - Performed works by Alison Chase, Jaime Hampton, Joan Woodbury

Additional performance experience with **Sam Costa, David Hochoy, Sardono Kusumo, Jacek Lumiński, Susan Marshall, Peter Pucci, and Doug Varone.**

UPCOMING AND ONGOING PROJECTS

No Boundaries Project: Development of Digital Humanities Archive

With a team of Humanities Advisors, and digital and video consultants, I am developing a digital platform to further the reach, distribution, and preservation of *No Boundaries*. More than a documentation of choreography, the archive will use dance as a mode of inquiry to reveal how the selected choreographers reflect, signal, negotiate and impact larger humanities themes. Through this versatile and interactive platform, *No Boundaries* will allow the user to navigate the material through a multiplicity of paths and multiple modes of interaction (text, audio, and visuals), bringing the choreographies and histories to life for generations to come.

Yes, And

Yes, And is a performance project that recenters Black womanhood as the norm and operating force in the creative process. Seemingly contradictory, the work is both: YES, an unapologetic celebration of Black sisterhood, AND, a complex investigation of issues and experiences (motherhood, trauma, sexuality, joy, mental health, self-care, the list is non-exhaustive) from a Black female center. *Yes, And* asks: Who would you be and what would you do if, as a Black woman, you had nothing to worry about? *Yes, And* is a process, or rather a methodology, of undoing and of freedom, the freedom “to find” and to “be found” from this recalibrated place. *Yes, And* is a National Performance Network (NPN) Creation Fund Project co-commissioned by Dance Place (Washington, DC) in partnership with Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning (Jamaica, NY), Fusebox Festival (Austin, TX), and Women & Their Work (Austin, TX).

SELECT REVIEWS & ARTICLES

- 2020 Anna Gallagher-Ross. “In Process: Gesel Mason on *Yes, And*” (December 2020).
<https://www.fuseboxfestival.com/post/in-process-gesel-mason-on-yes-and>
- 2020 Sara Carminati. “Who Would You Be: Gesel Mason on Black Women and the Permission to Worry Less.” *National Performance Network*. (December 2020) Link:
<https://nnpweb.org/gesel-mason-on-black-women-and-the-permission-to-worry-less/>
- 2020 Laurel V. McLaughlin. “Fusebox Festival 2020: ‘Living’ Roots in the Virtual.” *Art Papers*. (April 2020).
Configured for Fusebox Festival as a virtual performance, the work embodied what Amma Y. Ghartey-Tagoe Kootin—a collaborator on the project—calls an expansion “of the definitions and possibilities of (black) dance and the archive.”
- 2020 Michael Agresta. “Boxed in by Social Distancing, and Endlessly Inventive Theatre Festival Powers on Online.” *Texas Monthly*. (28 April 2020).
Two of the best performances of the weekend—Songs at the End of the World, by Dutch collective Wunderbaum and NO BOUNDARIES: The Journey to Embody and Archive the Visions of Black Choreographers by Gesel Mason Performance Projects... These professionally shot and edited videos might not have looked out of place on PBS.
- 2019 Robert Fairies. “Dance Repertory Theatre’s 2019 Fall for Dance.” *The Austin Chronicle*. (22 November 2019).
In this Renaissance Futura, choreographed by Dance Repertory Theatre co-Artistic Director Gesel Mason, women danced on tables, clapped, chanted, and spun across the stage like a collective whirlwind, owning the space.

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- 2019 Melanie Greene. "Gesel Mason is Preserving the Legacy of Black Dance Online." *Dance Magazine* (24 May 2019).
- 2019 Rachel Rizzuto. "Gesel Mason Is Celebrating African-American Choreographers on a New Online Platform." *Dance Teacher Magazine* (9 January 2019).
- 2018 Eva Yaa Asantewaa. "InfiniteBody Honor Roll 2018." *Infinite Body* (29 December 2018). Listed @**No Boundaries/Dancing The Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers** by Gesel Mason Performance Projects at The Billie Holiday Theatre, April 6-7
- 2018 Texas Exes. "Power of Movement." *Alcalde* (20 December 2018). Link: <https://youtu.be/IuhN14NpPJc>
- 2018 Molly Roy. "Archiving Black Dance: Gesel Mason Preserves, and Dances, the Work Of African American Choreographers." *Sightlines* (27 August 2018).
- 2018 Stephanie Wolf. "Dancer Preserves The Work Of Black Choreographers, In One Video At A Time." *National Public Radio* (8 July 2018).
- 2018 Siobhan Burke. "Review: A Living Archive of Contemporary Black Dance." *The New York Times* (9 April 2018).
Ms. Mason is doing her own essential work of building an archive, whether onstage or online. Whatever its future form, "No Boundaries" already has helped to ensure that African-American voices and the dialogues they've prompted don't vanish from the canon of contemporary American dance.
- 2018 Eva Yaa Asantewaa. "Uplifting Black Choreographers: Gesel Mason." *Infinite Body* (7 April 2018).
- 2018 Gia Kourlas. "10 Dance Performances to See in NYC This Weekend." *The New York Times* (5 April 2018).
- 2018 Jennifer Edwards. "Artists Activated: Gesel Mason on Embodied Legacy, Spherical Leadership, and 'Dancing the Visions of Contemporary Black Choreographers.'" *The Dance Enthusiast* (5 April 2018).
- 2018 Megan Pugh. "GESEL MASON with Megan Pugh." *The Brooklyn Rail* (5 March 2018).
- 2017 Amanda Abrams. "ADF Review: Dance Is an Expression of Its Era in the ADF-Commissioned Footprints." *INDY Week* (26 July 2017).
- 2017 Kate Dobbs Ariail. "Impressive Dancing in Distinctive Footprints ADF Program." *CVNC* (25 July 2017).
- 2017 Taryn Packheiser Brown. "REVIEW: "antithesis: Dance Place Practice" by Gesel Mason Performance Projects at Dance Place." *DC Dance Journalism Project* (2017).
antithesis: Dance Place Practice was hands-down one of the most remarkable shows I've seen in quite some time.
- 2017 Jill Randall. "Dancing and Reflecting: Dancers in Their 40s (Gesel Mason, Pamela Geber Handman, and Jess Humphrey)." *Life as a Modern Dancer* (12 January 2017).

- 2017 Lisa Traiger. "Erotic." *D.C. DanceWatcher* (8 January 2017).
Mason has constructed a probing critique of a slice of contemporary eroticism
- 2017 George Jackson. "Pliantly, Even Softly." *Dance View Times* (8 January 2017).
Foremost was the notion that to entertain and to educate is one and the same thing. Just acting out doesn't suffice for this insistent, agile, stalwart dancer/choreographer/teacher, nor does bare theorizing.
- 2016 Jill Randall. "Artist Profile #150: Gesel Mason (Boulder, CO)." *Life as a Modern Dancer* (31 December 2016).
- 2015 Christina Pandolfi. "BWW Review: AMERICAN DANCE GUILD Festival Fetes the Modern Dance Community's Triumphs." *Broadway World* (9 December 2015).
A stark contrast to the previous, Gesel Mason's LEC/DEM or How Do You Spell Femophobic followed. A movement-based lecture, this piece's standout was its form, which mingled text, costume and movement into a refreshed understanding of female physicality and sexuality: How do words and preconceived ideas inform the presentation of the female body in society? Soaked with a quick wit and tongue-in-cheek humor, this piece left nothing to the imagination, and the audience certainly wasn't left with "any questions."
- 2014 Tresca Weinstein. "In Series of Solos, Gesel Mason Deconstructs 'Black Dance.'" *Times Union* (5 February 2014).
- 2011 Gia Kourlas. "Looking at Intimacy, for Bodies and Minds." *The New York Times* (11 November 2011).
- 2010 Lisa Traiger. "Gesel Mason stages 'Women, Sex & Desire' at U-Md. Clarice Smith Center." *Washington Post* (19 March 2010).
- 2007 Jennifer Dunning. "Examining the Many Hues That Create Black and White." *The New York Times* (19 November 2007).
Ms. Mason has put together a show [No Boundaries] that should be required viewing for students of dance history.
- 2006 Sarah Kaufman. "Gesel Mason Alone: Memorably Moving." *Washington Post* (23 October 2006).
Gesel Mason's one-woman show [No Boundaries] was the sort of performance that in any other realm would enshrine her among a select few standouts...an ambitious, riveting and impressively executed program.

INVITED LECTURES, CONFERENCES, AND PANELS

- 2020 Lecture of "*No Boundaries: A Journey to Embody and Archive the Work of Black Choreographers*" for **Jacob's Pillow College Convening**. Virtual Workshop with New England College Partners.
- 2020 Virtual Panelist for **University of Texas at Austin College of Fine Arts**, "Antiracist and Inclusive Pedagogy in the Fine Arts," Austin, TX.
- 2020 Virtual panelist for **SOLE Defined: "Is the dance community silent?"**
- 2020 "LIVE DISCUSSION: Gesel Mason and the Making of NO BOUNDARIES" as part of **Fusebox Virtual Festival**, Austin, TX.
- 2020 Lecture of "*No Boundaries: A Journey to Embody and Archive the Work of Black Choreographers*" as part of **The Materiality of the Commons** which brings together scholars

- and activists who have been interested in exploring the history of the commons for contemporary political thought and activism. Hosted by Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX. (April 2020, Canceled due to COVID-19)
- 2020 Lecture of “*No Boundaries: A Journey to Embody and Archive the Work of Black Choreographers*” as part of **Project Vault**, an exchange between dance artists concerning the intersection of creative practices with artist-driven archives. Hosted by Bebe Miller and Company, Columbus, OH.
- 2020 Lecture of “*No Boundaries: A Journey to Embody and Archive the Work of Black Choreographers*” as part of the Envisioning Dance in Digital Space panel at **MOVING FORWARD: The 2020 American Dance Platform Symposium**, hosted by Joyce Theatre and NYU, New York, NY.
- 2019 Lecture of “*No Boundaries: A Journey to Embody and Archive the Work of Black Choreographers*” as part of the Archival/Historical including Digital panel at **Re:generations – dance and the digital space**, conference hosted in partnership by One Dance UK, IRIE! dance theatre, Middlesex University, dance Immersion and The Lowry, The Lowry, Salford, UK. [Peer reviewed]
- 2019 Featured speaker for “The State of Black Arts” for **Western Arts Alliance Pre-Conference Symposium**, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2019 Invited to participate in **BORDERS OF BLACKNESS**, Black Performance Theory Colloquium Convening, hosted by Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ.
- 2017 Invited to give speech for **American Dance Festival** Teaching Tribute Award to Liz Lerman
- 2017 Co-facilitated a talk on race relations in the dance field with Nia Love at the **American Dance Festival**
- 2017 Co-facilitated a talk on Sex and Power with Ray Schwartz at the **American Dance Festival**
- 2016 Panelist for “Collective Strategies for Women of Color in Dance” at **International Association of Blacks in Dance**, Denver, CO, moderated by Dr. Brenda Dixon Gottschild.
- 2014 Panelist for AT BUFFALO/Performing the Archive facilitated by Dr. Amma Ghartey Tagoe-Kootin at **Black Theater Network Conference** in New York
- 2014 Guest speaker for Final Co-Curricular Event - the **Celebration of Leadership for Leadership Residential Academic Program**, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2014 Guest speaker for Opening Event for **Leadership Residential Academic Program**, University of Colorado Boulder

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AUSTIN

- 2021 Courses:
- Contemporary Technique, TD12C (26850)/322C (27015), 3 credits, Fall
 - Choreography, TD332M (27135), 3 credits, Fall
 - Graduate: Dance Technique, TD386D, 27359, 3 credits, Fall
 - Graduate: Performance Studio, TDf680M (77664), 6 credits, Summer Session 1
 - Graduate: Dance in Academia, TDs386 (77713), 3 credits, Summer Session 2
 - Graduate: Advance Projects in Performance, TDs380P (77713), 3 credits, Summer Session 2
 - Movement Composition, TD 312N (26270)/312N (26271), 3 credits, Spring
 - Projects in Dance Performance and Repertory, TD 212P (26275)/222P (26420)/232Q (25480), 2 credits, Spring
 - Graduate: Dance Technique, TD 386D (26765), 3 credits, Spring
- 2020 Courses:
- Contemporary Dance Technique, TD 312C (25395)/322C (25545), 3 credits, Fall

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- Graduate: Dance Technique, TD 386D (25885), 3 credits, Fall
- Graduate: Embodiment/Legacy/Archiving, TD 387D (25904), 3 credits, Fall
- Movement Composition, TD 312N (25635), 3 credits, Spring
- Advance Contemporary Dance Technique, TD 322E (25775), 3 credits, Spring
- Independent Study, Uwazi Zamani (Nickolas Muckleroy)
- Independent Study, Venice Anne Alcantar
- Independent Study, Carolina Azteca Sirias

Guest Lectures:

- Guest lecturer for Lisa B. Thompson, Staging Black Feminism, AFR 388
- Guest lecturer for Rebecca Rossen, Gender and Sexuality in Physical Performance, TD 387D

Advising:

- Advisor for 4 graduate students in Dance

2019 Courses:

- Contemporary Dance Technique, TD 312C (25330)/322C (25408), 3 credits, Fall
- Projects in Dance Performance and Repertory, TD 212P (25355)/222P (25505)/232P (25620), 2 credits, Fall
- Choreography I, TD 322M (25616), 3 credits, Fall
- Graduate: Dance Technique, TD 386D (25845), 3 credits, Fall
- Advance Contemporary Dance Technique, TD 322E (25565), 3 credits, Spring
- Graduate: Embodiment/Legacy/Archiving, TD 387D (25944), 3 credits, Spring

Advising:

- Advisor for 3 graduate students in Dance

2018 Courses:

- Projects in Dance Performance and Repertory, TD 232P (25985), 2 credits, Fall
- Choreography I, TD 322M (25980), 3 credits, Fall

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

2018 Courses:

- Writing & Performance co-taught with Julie Carr, ENGL 5279/DNCE 5909, 3 credits, Spring

2017 Courses:

- First Year Dance Seminar, DNCE 1908, 1 credit, Fall
- Beginning Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 2021, 2 credits, Fall
- Beginning Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Fall
- Advanced Dance Composition, DNCE 4053/5053, 3 credits, Fall
- Dance Improvisation, DNCE 1013, 3 credits, Spring
- Advanced Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 4061, 2 credits, Spring
- Advanced Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Spring

Guest Lectures:

- Guest lecturer for Marcos Steuernagel, Research Strategies and Techniques, THTR 6009
- Guest lecturer for Kevin Rich, Improvisation 1: Thinking on your feet, THTR 3213

2016 Courses:

- Advanced Dance Composition, DNCE 4053/5053, 3 credits, Fall

Gesel Mason - Curriculum Vitae

- Special Topics – Performing Identities/Embodied Conversations DNCE 4909/5909, 2 credits, Fall
- Teaching release, Spring

Guest Lectures:

- Guest lecturer in Performance Practicum DNCE 1908
- Guest speaker for Senior Seminar THTR 4081
- Guest speaker for Introduction to Practice-Based Research IAWP 6000

Advising:

- Advisor for 20 Undergraduate students in Dance

2015 Courses:

- Intermediate Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 3041, 2 credits, Spring
- Intermediate Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Spring
- Graduate Readings in Dance, DNCE 6017, 3 credits, Spring
- Beginning Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 2021, 2 credits, Fall
- Beginning Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Fall
- Advanced Dance Composition, DNCE 4053/5053, 3 credits, Fall

Guest Lectures:

- Guest lecturer in Performance Practicum DNCE 1908
- Guest speaker for Senior Seminar THTR 4081
- Guest lecturer for Intro to Theater THTR 1009
- Guest speaker in Dance and Community Engagement THTR 4029
- Guest lecturer on minstrelsy for History and Philosophy of Dance DNCE 4017
- Guest teacher for Movement for Actors THTR 2043

Advising:

- Advisor for 20 Undergraduate students in Dance

2014 Courses:

- Intermediate Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 3041, 2 credits, Spring
- Intermediate Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Spring
- Dance Improvisation, DNCE 1013, 3 credits, Spring
- Advanced Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 4061, 2 credits, Fall
- Advanced Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Fall
- Beginning Dance Composition, DNCE 2033, 3 credits, Fall
- Independent Study, Jenessa Monson
- Independent Study, Lauren Vickerman
- Independent Study, Ondine Geary

Guest Lectures:

- Guest lecturer in Performance Practicum DNCE 1908

Advising:

- Advisor for 20 undergraduate students in Dance

2013 Courses:

- Advanced Dance Composition, DNCE 4053/5053, 3 credits, Fall

Gesel Mason - Curriculum Vitae

- Advanced Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 4061, 2 credits, Fall
- Advanced Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Fall

Guest Lectures:

- Guest lecturer on African American choreographers in History and Philosophy DNCE 4017
- Guest lecturer in Performance Practicum DNCE 1908
- Guest lecturer on producing a show in Dance Production DNCE 1012

Advising:

- Advisor for 20 Undergraduate students in Dance

2012 Courses:

- Dance Improvisation, DNCE 1013, 3 credits, Spring (*Artist in Residence*)
- Graduate Seminar in Dance, DNCE 6047, 3 credits, Spring (*Artist in Residence*)
- Beginning Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 2061, 2 credits, Spring (*Artist in Residence*)
- Beginning Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Spring (*Artist in Residence*)

2011 Courses:

- Advanced Dance Composition, DNCE 4053/5053, 3 credits, Fall (*Artist in Residence*)
- Advanced Modern Dance - Major Technique, DNCE 4061, 2 credits, Fall (*Artist in Residence*)
- Advanced Modern Dance - Grad Section, DNCE 5001, 2 credits, Fall (*Artist in Residence*)
- Intermediate Jazz for Non-Majors, DNCE 3241, 2 credits, Fall (*Artist in Residence*)

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

- 2019 Curriculum Development: Assisting development of M.F.A. in Dance & Social Justice
- 2014 Curriculum Development: Assisted Rennie Harris and Erika Randall in developing Hip Hop 1 and Hip Hop 2 lecture courses.

HONORS, B.F.A., B.A., M.F.A., M.A., AND Ph.D. COMMITTEES

- 2021 Committee Chair M.F.A. Thesis, Erica Saucedo
- 2020 Committee Chair M.F.A. Thesis, Millie Heckler
Committee member for M.F.A. Thesis, Jeremy Arnold
- 2019 Faculty Advisor for URB 370 Senior Project, Andrea Duong
- 2018 Third Reader for B.F.A. candidate Olivia Demoulin
Member of Ph.D. Candidate in CMCI: Interdisciplinary Arts Writing Performance Niki Tulk
Dissertation Committee
- 2017 Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Bonnie Cox
Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Aaron Allen
Principal B.F.A. Thesis advisor, Gabrielle Whitcomb
Second Reader for M.F.A. candidate, Arneshia Williams
Second Reader for M.F.A. candidate, Samantha Wesler
Second Reader for M.F.A. candidate, Vivian Kim
Second reader for B.F.A. candidate Heather Woolley
GPTI observer for Gwen Ritchie

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- GPTI observer for Kristen Holleyman
GPTI observer for Morgan Mullholland
- 2016 Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Amanda Benzin
Second Reader for M.F.A. candidate Michelle Bernier
Second Reader for M.F.A. candidate Bailey Anderson
GPTI observer for Bonnie Cox
GPTI observer for Gwen Ritchie
GPTI observer for Colt Irvin
GPTI observer for Laura Malpass
GPTI observer for Aaron Allen
- 2015 Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Mandy Greenlee
Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Sara Roybal
Principal B.F.A. Thesis advisor, Kayla Smallcanyon
Principal B.F.A. Thesis advisor, Jamie Holzman
Second Reader for M.F.A. candidate Erinn Liebhard
Second reader for B.F.A. candidate Britt Ford
Member of Ph.D. Candidate in Theater Deanna Downes Dissertation Committee
BA internship with Andrea Sanchez, 3 credits
BA internship with Jordan Cate, 1 credit
BA internship with Sophia Hernandez, 3 credits
BA internship with Allyx Smith, 1 credit
Mentored M.F.A. candidate Samantha Salters for her thesis concert, Fall 2015
GPTI observer for Amanda Benzin
GPTI observer for Bonnie Cox
GPTI observer for Samantha Wesler
GPTI observer for Sara Roybal
GPTI observer for Gwen Ritchie
GPTI observer for Bailey Anderson
GPTI observer for Sonya Smith
- 2014 Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Sonya Smith, Spring
Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Jessica Pagach, Fall
Second reader for M.F.A. candidate, Kate Speer, Spring
Second reader for B.F.A. candidate, Samantha Lysaght, Spring
Second reader for B.F.A. candidate Amy Millenor, Spring
Thesis Committee Member for Individually Structured Major Skyler Scott
Member of Ph.D. Candidate in Theater Jennifer Calvano Dissertation Committee
GPTI observer and reviewer for Mandy Greenlee
- 2013 Second reader for B.F.A. candidate Skye Hughes, Fall
Third reader for M.F.A. candidate in Film Studies Julie Rooney, Fall
Mentored M.F.A. candidate Rachel Oliver for her thesis concert, Fall
Mentored M.F.A. candidate Maren Waldman for her thesis concert, Fall
BA internship advisor, Jenessa Monson
GPTI observer and reviewer for Mandy Greenlee
GPTI observer and reviewer for Erinn Liebhard
Pedagogical mentoring for GPTI Mandy Greenlee for non-major modern technique DNCE 1000-003, Fall

Support and recommendation for M.F.A. candidate Bailey Anderson and her application for the Beverly Sears grant (received)
Support for B.F.A. candidate Amy Millenner and her application for a \$1,000 departmental ACE grant (received)

- 2012 Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Michael Mestas, Spring
Principal M.F.A. Thesis advisor, Fara Tolno, Spring

ACADEMIC RESIDENCIES

- 2011 - 2012 **University of Colorado Boulder**, Boulder, CO
Guest Instructor: Fall 2011 – Spring 2012: Beginning and Advanced Modern Dance Major Technique, Dance Improvisation, Advanced Choreography, Intermediate Jazz for Non-Majors, Graduate Seminar in Dance, Repertory
- 2006 - 2010 **University of Maryland**, College Park, MD
Artist in Residence: Fall 2009 – Spring 2010: Beginning and Intermediate Modern Technique, Choreography Level 3
Artist in Residence: Spring 2008: Intermediate Modern Technique, Repertory, Choreography Level 2
Artist in Residence: Fall 2006: Advanced Modern Technique, Repertory
- 2007 **Columbia College**, Chicago, IL
Artist in Residence: Fall: All levels of Modern Dance Technique and Repertory
- 2005 **University of Maryland Baltimore County**, Baltimore, MD
Artist in Residence: Spring: Improvisation, Repertory, Advanced Modern Dance Technique, Composition
- 2004, 2002 **Virginia Commonwealth University**, Richmond, VA
Artist in Residence: Fall 2004 and Spring 2002: Advanced levels Modern Dance Technique, Community Engagement, Repertory
- 2002 **Texas Women's University**, Denton, TX
Artist in Residence: Fall: Intermediate and Advanced levels Modern Dance Technique, Repertory, Composition

MASTER CLASSES, WORKSHOPS, AND FESTIVALS

- 2020 **Bates Dance Festival At Home**, Lewiston, ME
Guest Faculty: Virtual Intensive Professional Training Program (Canceled due to injury.)
Dancer from the Dance Festival of Irish Choreography
Guest Artist: Virtual workshop hosted by John Scott Dance
Black Beauty Dance Series
Guest Artist: Virtual Workshop hosted by Shakia Barron, Mount Holyoke College
American Dance Festival, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA
Guest Faculty: Taught scholarship audition class for ADF pre-professional dance intensive program.
American College Dance Festival, American College Dance Association South-Central Conference, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX

Guest Faculty: Scholarship audition class for ADF pre-professional dance intensive program. (Canceled due to COVID-19.)

- 2019 **Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography (MANCC)**, Tallahassee, FL
Artist Facilitator: Forward Dialogues 2, a 14-day laboratory program, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, supported and catalyzed the ideas of emergent movement-based artists working in urban settings around the United States, nurturing relationships with the next generation of dance makers by supporting their evolving artistic practices. <https://mancc.org/artists/mancc-forward-dialogues/>
Becca Blackwell research development residency, Austin, TX
Instructor: Taught a movement workshop to a collective of trans/nonbinary participants as part of a development residency for Becca Blackwell hosted by Paul Bonin-Rodriguez.
American Dance Festival, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Guest Faculty: Taught scholarship audition class for ADF pre-professional dance intensive program.
- 2018 **American University**, Washington, D.C.
Guest Artist: 2-day workshop, Performing Identities/Embodied Conversations
Bates Dance Festival, Lewiston, ME
Faculty: Modern V and Modern Repertory
Naropa University Summer Writing Program
Faculty: Co-Taught "Confrontation/Conversation: Writing & Moving Our Bodies Into Action" with poet Julie Carr.
- 2017 **American Dance Festival**, Durham, NC
Faculty: Footprints Choreographer for Six Week Summer School. Taught master technique class. Heralded as "One of the nation's most important institutions" by the *New York Times* and as "The world's greatest dance festival" by the *New York Post*, the American Dance Festival's sustained record of 82 years of creative achievement is indivisible from the history of modern dance.
Maggie Allesee National Center for Choreography (MANCC), Tallahassee, FL
Artist Facilitator: Forward Dialogues, a new 10-day laboratory program, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, supported and catalyzed the ideas of emergent movement-based artists working in urban settings around the United States, nurturing relationships with the next generation of dance makers by supporting their evolving artistic practices. <https://mancc.org/artists/mancc-forward-dialogues/>
University of Texas at Austin, *Guest Lecturer* for "Gender and Sexuality in Physical Performance" class
University of Texas at Austin, *Guest Lecturer:* Taught devising workshop for Performance Studies Graduate Students
Dance ICONS (International Consortium for Advancement in Choreography), Washington, DC
Invited Guest: Taught workshop titled "Joy and Chaos: An Embodied Approach to Sourcing the Erotic"
Dance Exchange, Washington, DC
Invited Guest: Taught workshop on erotic pleasure as a source of creativity as part of the Dance Exchange Winter Institute
- 2016 **American Dance Festival**, Durham, NC

Faculty: Intermediate Modern Dance and Intermediate Dance Composition faculty for Six Week Summer School. Heralded as “One of the nation’s most important institutions” by the *New York Times* and as “The world’s greatest dance festival” by the *New York Post*, the American Dance Festival’s sustained record of 82 years of creative achievement is indivisible from the history of modern dance.

RedLine, Denver, CO

Invited Guest: Taught Joy and Chaos: An Embodied Approach to Sourcing the Erotic” as part of RedLine’s *48 Hours of Socially Engaged Art & Conversation Summit*

2014

SUNY Potsdam, Potsdam, NY

Visiting Artist: Beginning/Intermediate Modern Dance, Advanced Modern Dance, and Intermediate Dance Composition, Lecture to Introduction to Performance Studies – “Trauma in Performance”

Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Visiting Artist: Dance Improvisation

American College Dance Festival Association at University of Montana

Faculty: Intermediate/Advanced Modern Dance Class

American College Dance Festival Association at University of Milwaukee

Faculty: Intermediate/Advanced Modern Dance Class at

Ursinus College, PA

Visiting Artist: Co-taught JR/SR Seminar - Professional Dance Paths Talk, Int/Adv Modern, Dance Improvisation with Tim O'Donnell

100 Grand, New York City, NY

Guest Instructor: Co-taught contact improvisation class and "Contact Meets Contemporary" class with Tim O'Donnell

Russell Sage College, Troy, NY

Guest Lecturer: Dance History class – “African American Contributions to Contemporary Dance”

Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Guest Lecturer: Dance & Society class – “African American Contributions to Contemporary Dance”

2013

Arizona State University Dance Department, Tempe, AZ

Guest Instructor: Master classes in Movement Practice and assisted with Creative Practice

SUNY Albany, Albany, NY

Visiting Artist: Movement workshop for 40 students and a Feminist Social and Political Thought course as part of Sexuality Week; two movement for actors workshops for two sections of Acting 1; a movement workshop for Human Sexuality Class, a training class for Project SHAPE: Sexual Health & Peer Education as part of Sexuality Month; and a movement workshop for 50 students involved in the SUNY Albany Counseling Center's Middle Earth Peer Assistance Program as part of Sexuality Month. The Middle Earth Peer Assistance Program provides telephone hotline and online peer assistance, peer education, and peer career advisement services to assist students in meeting their educational goals and in coping with emotional, social, and other life issues that they face.

2011

American College Dance Festival Association at University of Utah

Faculty: Intermediate Modern Dance Class

INSTRUCTION FOR SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- 2007 - 2011 **Maryland Youth Ballet**, Silver Spring Maryland
Instructor: Modern Technique to advanced level ballet students age 14-18, summer and fall semesters
- 2000 - 2009 **Liz Lerman Dance Exchange**, Takoma Park, MD
Faculty: Professional Level Modern Dance Technique, and Modern Classes for Teen Exchange
- 2005 - 2007 **Dance Place**, Washington, D.C.
Instructor: Intermediate/Advanced Modern Dance Technique
- 2005 **American Dance Institute**, Rockville, MD
Instructor: Intermediate/Advanced Level Modern Dance Technique
- 2000-2004 **Joy of Motion**, Washington, D.C.
Faculty: Intermediate Modern, African, and youth classes
- 2002 **St. Mary's Episcopal School**, Memphis, TN
Guest Artist: Taught and performed for elementary school students
- 1994-1996 **Apple Valley High School**, Apple Valley, MN
Director/Full time Dance Instructor and Choreographer for dance, theater, and musical productions

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2017 Participated in CU Grow: Conflict Resolution
- 2015 Leap Introductory Leadership Workshop
Attended FTEP workshop: Doing It All: The First Seven Years
Attended workshops as part of ODECE Diversity Summit.
- 2014 Attended Cultivating Greater Civility on Campus/Unprofessional, Intimidating Behavior
Attended a LEAP sponsored workshop for Women Faculty
Attended FTEP Early Career Faculty Program
Participated in History and Philosophy of Dance taught by Erika Randall during Maymester.
Took half a semester of Ethnography of American Blackness taught by Dr. Bianca Williams,
Attended an Irene Dowd workshop at the Dairy sponsored by 3rd Law
Took half a semester of Foundations in Ethnic Studies taught by Dr. Daryl Joji Maeda,
Contact improvisation workshop with Tim O'Donnell and Eileen Standley at Peaceable Barn,
Redding, CT
- 2013 Attended two FTEP lunches for early career faculty
Audited half a semester Queering Black Studies (ETHN 5102) taught by Kwame Holmes
Audited half a semester Dance and Popular Culture (DNCE 1017) taught by Donna Mejia.

SERVICE

NATIONAL, UNIVERSITY, AND DEPARTMENTAL

2020 National:

- National Endowment for the Arts Grants for Arts Projects Review Panel
- Adjudicator for Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's 38th Annual Choreographers Showcase
- Adjudicator for American College Dance Association Northwest Regional Conference at SUNY Potsdam, Potsdam, NY

UT Austin:

- Faculty Advisory Committee on Budgets - University
- Experiential Learning Initiative E-portfolio Taskforce – University
- Minor in Arts Management and Administration (MAMA) Curriculum Committee – College
- Budget Council - Departmental
- Graduate Studies Executive Committee – Departmental
- M.F.A. Dance Coordinator – Dance Area
- Manager for Dance Area Admin Student Assistant

2019 National:

- Adjudicator for American College Dance Association Mid-Atlantic South Region at Meredith College in Raleigh, NC
- External Reviewer for Tenure File of Assistant Professor Abigail Zbikowski at University of Illinois

UT Austin:

- Experiential Learning Initiative E-portfolio Taskforce – University
- Minor in Arts Management and Administration (MAMA) Curriculum Committee – College
- Budget Council - Departmental
- Theatre and Dance Department Chair Nominating Committee – Departmental
- Graduate Studies Executive Committee – Departmental
- M.F.A. Dance Coordinator – Dance Area
- Co-Artistic Director of Dance Repertory Theatre (Fall) – Dance Area
- Manager for Dance Area Admin Student Assistant

2018 UT Austin:

- Fine Arts Library Advisory Committee – College of Fine Arts
- Co-Artistic Director of Dance Repertory Theatre (Fall) – Dance Area

2017 National:

- Grant Panelist for Engaging Dance Audiences for Dance/USA
- Adjudicator for American College Dance Association Baja Region at El Camino College Center for the Arts in Torrance, CA

CU Boulder:

- Member of Faculty Leadership Institute, a CU Boulder initiative to develop the next generation of faculty campus leaders

Gesel Mason - Curriculum Vitae

- CU Boulder ASSETT Faculty Fellow. Faculty Fellows serve as mentors, leaders, and/or liaisons to promote and prioritize the continual improvement of the undergraduate student learning experience in their respective departments
- Selected as a campus listener for CU Boulder Academic Futures: Rethinking the University - the futures of learning and discovery, the campus visioning process
- Advisory board member for CU Café a student-run seminar series that focuses on inspiring students from underrepresented backgrounds to be successful academics
- Dance Department Director of Undergraduate Studies in Dance
- Dance Department Reviewed B.F.A. audition applications in preparation of High School Dance Day
- Dance Department M.F.A. audition committee, reviewed files and auditionees
- Taught as part of CU Summer Infusion, a recruitment effort by the Dance Program
- Member of Curriculum Committee
- Member of Department of Theatre & Dance Primary Unit Evaluation Committee (PUEC)

2016 National:

- Grant Panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts
- Grant Panelist for Baltimore City Baker Awards which awards five artists \$85,000 in prizes: the \$50,000 Mary Sawyers Imboden Prize, the \$20,000 Mary Sawyers Baker Prize, and three \$5,000 prizes: The Semmes G. Walsh, Nancy Haragan and Board of Governors Awards.
- Reviewer for University of Wisconsin Milwaukee's Research Growth Initiative
- Adjudicator for American College Dance Association at University of Southern Mississippi
- Facilitated a walk and discussion with the American Dance Festival community around the shootings of Alton Sterling, Philando Castile and Dallas police officers
- Co-facilitated an Open Forum for the American Dance Festival community that allowed students and faculty to present work around race, resiliency, and activism.

CU Boulder:

- Member of Faculty Leadership Institute
- Dance Department Director of Undergraduate Studies in Dance
- Dance Department Reviewed B.F.A. audition applications in preparation of High School Dance Day
- Dance Department M.F.A. audition committee, reviewed files and auditionees
- Member of Boulder Faculty Assembly and B.F.A. Diversity Committee
- Member of Curriculum Committee

2015 National:

- One of five panelists selected for McKnight Foundation Fellowships for Dancers which awards \$25,000 fellowships to individual mid-career dancers and choreographers who reside in Minnesota.
- One of 34 Artistic panelists for New Music USA's project grant. New Music USA represents a unified channel of support for a wide range of new music projects.

CU Boulder:

- Sat on a panel Co-Deo conference at Colorado State University
- Dance Department M.F.A. audition committee, reviewed files and auditionees
- Dance Department Reviewed B.F.A. audition applications in preparation of High School Dance Day
- Dance Department Director of Undergraduate Studies in Dance beginning Fall 2013

Gesel Mason - Curriculum Vitae

- Theatre & Dance Department Search Committee member for Performance Studies tenure track position Fall 2015
- Theatre & Dance Department Curriculum Committee member
- Submitted a PUEC letter for Michelle Ellsworth
- Submitted a reappointment letter for Donna Mejia
- Submitted a reappointment letter for Rennie Harris
- Member of Boulder Faculty Assembly and B.F.A. Diversity Committee
- Recruited and interviewed by Office of Strategic Marketing for video about overcoming failure for new online "New Student Welcome" orientation.
- Served on IMPART grant selection committee
- Macky Auditorium Pre-Concert Lecture Series: StepAfrika!

2014 National:

- Juror for Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance's Ruby's Artist Project grant program, a new initiative that grants up to \$10,000 to individual artists in support of creative projects in all disciplines.
- One of 30 African American women choreographers invited to participate in a research project for an Urban Bush Women initiative called Project Next Generation
- Adjudicator for American College Dance Association at University of Milwaukee

CU Boulder:

- Dance Department M.F.A. audition committee, reviewed files and auditionees.
- Dance Department Reviewed B.F.A. audition applications in preparation of High School Dance Day
- Dance Department Director of Undergraduate Studies in Dance beginning Fall 2013
- Theatre & Dance Department Search Committee member for Dance Technical Director 2013-2014
- Theatre & Dance Department Curriculum Committee member
- Theatre & Dance Department Professional development training for M.F.A. students: "Teaching a Practice or Technique-based Course"
- Submitted a PUEC letter for Jesse Manno
- Submitted a PUEC letter for Nii Armah Sowah
- Created and submitted a dance for camera for Cuba Global Seminar

2013 CU Boulder:

- Dance Department Director of Undergraduate Studies in Dance
- Theatre & Dance Department Search Committee member for Dance Technical Director
- Theatre & Dance Department Theater and Dance Curriculum Committee member
- Assisted colleague and Senior Instructor Nii Armah Sowah in writing Rachel Oliver's nomination for Graduate Part-Time Instructor Teaching Excellence Award.

2012 National:

- Adjudicator for American College Dance Association at Darton College

2011 National:

- Adjudicator for American College Dance Association at University of Idaho

2008 National:

- Adjudicator for American College Dance Association at SUNY Brockport

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2008 - present **American College Dance Association formerly American College Dance Festival Association**

Adjudicator: The American College Dance Association's primary focus is to support and promote the wealth of talent and creativity that is prominent throughout college and university dance departments.

2010 - 2013 **Alternate Roots**

Performer and Board Member: Alternate ROOTS is a regional arts service organization based in the South committed to social and economic justice and the protection of the natural world. As a coalition of cultural workers and activist artists, they strive to be allies in the elimination of all forms of oppression.

1998 - 2010 **Mason/Rhynes Productions (MRP Inc.)**

Co-founder and Artistic Director: MRP Inc. was a non-profit arts service organization dedicated to providing and facilitating performing arts events, residencies, and workshops designed to challenge, entertain, and enlighten diverse populations.

Duties included:

- Coordinate staff and artistic personnel for productions and performance events with Managing Director, Cheles Rhynes
- Provide artistic feedback and consultation for performance events and managed artists
- Design residencies, arts facilitation and outreach programs that engage community
- Oversee publicity and marketing
- Grant Writing

1999-2001 **American Festival Project (AFP)**

Chair (2000-01), Board member (1999-2000): AFP was multicultural alliance of a small group of accomplished artists and performing-arts companies from all over the U.S. that work with different communities to create an arts project, or festival, as a cultural organizing tool that will leave lasting social change in its wake.

ARTS FACILITATION, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND OUTREACH

2013 **Sexpressions**, University of Colorado, Boulder

Performed "Orientation", an excerpt from *(anti)thesis*, for *Sexpressions*, a talent showcase celebrating a positive expression of women's sexuality by women-identified performers.

2009 **Sister Cities International**, Belfast, Ireland

Led over 150 youth and adult participants in a welcome activity. Provided assistance to Youth and Adult conferences.

2008 **International Contemporary Dance Conference and Performance Festival**, Bytom, Poland

Directed a 10-14 day residency for a mixed abilities group (wheelchair users and dancers) that culminated in an original work for the group.

2008 **Grupa "Hajde Da..." (Group "Let's...")**, Belgrade, Serbia

Directed a 5-day residency for a mixed abilities group (wheelchair users, partially blind participants, therapists, actors, and dancers), which consisted of workshops for artists interested in working with mixed abilities populations and a 30-minute performance.

Gesel Mason - Curriculum Vitae

- 2007 **International Contemporary Dance Conference and Performance Festival**, Bytom, Poland
Directed a 10-14 day residency for a mixed abilities group (wheelchair users and dancers) that culminated in an original work for the group.
- 2006 **Joy of Motion**, Washington, D.C.
Designed capstone project for 9th grade with Caesar Chavez Charter School using dance to address immigration issues.
- 2003 - 2005 **Montgomery County Public Schools**, Silver Spring, MD
Developed a dance curriculum and taught for summer and after school programs with students through Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.
- 2004 **University of Utah**, Salt Lake City, UT
Taught Advanced Modern Technique, performed excerpts of NO BOUNDARIES for Black History Month, set a solo on a student, and taught at two public high schools as part of a guest artist residency.
- 2000 - 2002 **Journey's Day Treatment Program**, Rockville, MD
Designed and directed an arts program for teens on probation in a partnership with the Montgomery County Juvenile Justice System.