

# MICHELLE T. SUMMERS

Curriculum Vitae

Updated September 1, 2016

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## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Dance and Performance Studies, Ballet and Modern Dance, Religious Studies, Gender/Sexuality Studies, Critical Race Theory, Writing and Composition, Choreography, Online Pedagogy

## EDUCATION

- 2014      Ph.D. Critical Dance Studies  
University of California, Riverside  
Dissertation: *White Soul/Forbidden Body: Dancing Christian From Ruth St. Denis to Pole Dancing for Jesus*. Advisor: Dr. Jacqueline Shea Murphy
- 2009      M.A. Performance Studies  
New York University  
Thesis: *Reading Her Epitaph: Signification, Experimentation, & Sensation in Jiri Kyliän's Petite Mort*. Advisor: Dr. Ann Pellegrini
- 2006      B.A. English & B.F.A. Ballet  
Texas Christian University (Magna Cum Laude)

## ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2015-17    Lecturer, University of California, Berkeley  
Dept. of Theater, Dance and Performance Studies  
TH R1B: Writing About Performance (6 sections, 2 years)  
TH 121: Dance in Religious Cultures (Upper Level Undergraduate Seminar)  
TH 119: Dance, Gender & Sexuality (Upper Level Undergraduate Seminar)
- 2015      Adjunct Faculty, Santa Clara University  
Department of Dance  
DNCE 67: Dance History (Advanced Writing component)
- 2015      Interim Faculty, Bentley High School  
Department of Fine Arts  
Introduction to Dance (Integrated Studio/Dance History course)  
Intermediate Dance (Integrated Studio/Dance History course)
- 2010-14    Teaching Assistant, University of California – Riverside  
Department of Dance and University Writing Program  
DNCE 007: Dance Cultures and Contexts (Online and Campus Based)  
DNCE 005: Introduction to Dance (Ballet, Modern, Composition)  
ENGL 004: English Writing  
ENGL 001B: Intermediate Composition

ENGL 001A: Beginning Composition

2006-07 Adjunct Faculty, Texas Christian University  
Department of Dance  
PEAC 10591: Ballet for Non-Majors (Studio)

## PUBLICATIONS

- “Pole Dancing for Jesus: Healthy Bodies, Healthy Souls,” *Dance in American Culture*, eds. Jennifer Atkins, Sally Sommer, & Tricia Young (Gainesville: University Press of Florida), Forthcoming.
- “Beyond the On-Campus Humanities Learning Experience: A Case Study in Utilizing Assessment Tools in an Online Dance Studies Course,” with Kimberly Downing Robinson and Rebecca J. Timmons, *Interdisciplinary Humanities* 31.1 (2014): 72-80.
- “Sam Gill’s *Dancing Culture Religion*,” Book Review, *Dance Research Journal* Vol. 46, No. 2 (August 2014): 118-120.
- “Forbidden Altars: U.S. Liturgical Dance after the Second Vatican Council,” *Conversations Across the Field of Dance Studies*, Vol. XXXIII (Spring 2014).
- “Katja Kolcio’s *Movable Pillars: Organizing Dance, 1956-1978*,” Book Review, *Women and Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*, 21:1 (2011): 140-142.
- “The Tension in Solidarity: Race, Gender and National Identity in Katherine Dunham’s *Southland*,” *UCLA Thinking Gender Papers* (2009). Online.

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

2016-17 Andrew Mellon Foundation Course Development Grant, Cal Performances

2016 Shelly Osborne Fund for Visiting Artists, UC Berkeley

2014 Center for Arts, Religion, & Education Grant (GTU)

2013 – 2014 American Association for University Women Dissertation Fellowship

2013 – 2014 UCR Graduate Division Dissertation Fellowship

2013 California Creative Capacity Fund Professional Development Grant

2013 Mellon Dance Studies Summer Seminar – Brown University

2012 – 2013 Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation Fellowship

2013 UCR Dissertation Research Grant

2012 – 2013 Instructor of the Year – Jayvee Dance Center

2012 – 2013 UCR Graduate Dean Supplemental Fee Fellowship

2012 Body, Performance & Dance Research Grant

2012 Sacred Dance Guild Scholarship Recipient

2010 – 2013 Maxwell H. Gluck Foundation Fellowship

2011 UCR Humanities Research Grant

2010 Northwestern University’s Summer Institute in Performance Studies

2009 – 2013 UCR Graduate Division Fellowship

2008 Tisch School of the Arts Departmental Fellowship

2004 Nancy Evans Memorial Award for Texas Writing

2003 Elise Carlton Scholarship – Texas Panhandle Heritage Foundation

2002 – 2006 TCU Provost Scholarship

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2014 “Un/Catholic Confessions: On Passing for Christian”  
Society of Dance History Scholars and Congress on Research in Dance  
University of Iowa (Organized Panel)
- 2014 “Pioneering Liturgical Dance in New York City after Vatican II”  
The Cushwa Center’s Lived History of Vatican II Conference - Notre Dame
- 2013 “Suspended Syncretism: Western Liturgical Dance in the Post Vatican II Age  
of Ecumenism”  
Society of Dance History Scholars & Congress on Research - UC, Riverside
- 2013 “The Birth of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century American Liturgical Dancer: Modernity,  
Multiculturalism, & Reform”  
American Academy of Religion - Baltimore, MD
- 2013 “Soulography: Modern Dance, Liturgical Dance,”  
Congress on Research in Dance & Dance Under Construction - UCLA
- 2012 “Pole Dancing for Jesus: The Healthy, the Holy, and the Sexy”  
Congress on Research in Dance - University of New Mexico
- 2012 “Stephen Colbert: Liturgical Dancer, or How to Make a Ridiculous  
Liturgical Dance”  
Dance Under Construction - University of California, Riverside
- 2011 “Between Theology and Embodiment: The Practice of Liturgical Dance in  
the Sanctuary Space”  
Cambridge Talks V - Harvard University
- 2010 “The Electronic Counterpart: The Body and Spectacle in David Dorfman’s  
*underground*”  
Society of Dance History Scholars - University of Surrey, London

#### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- 2016 “Divinity & Presence”  
Guest Lecturer, Dance 152: Introduction to Improvisation in Dance  
Stanford University – Stanford, CA
- 2016 “Undergraduate Study at Top U.S. Universities”  
Camelot Academy of Arts, Science & Technology  
Guangzhou & Beijing, China
- 2015 “The Constantly Confessing Ethnographer”  
Center for the Arts, Religion, & Education - Berkeley, CA
- 2010-2013 “Pursuing a Ph.D. in Dance”  
Senior Seminar for Dance Majors - University of Wisconsin, Madison
- 2009 “Academics and the Arts”  
Scholarship Workshop for Montage Arts - Orange, CA
- 2007 “Emerging Leaders in Arts Administration,” Invited Panelist  
Rose Marine Theater - Fort Worth, TX

### ADDITIONAL DANCE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2015, 2016	The Bentley School, Lafayette, CA	Guest Faculty, Musical Theater
2014 – 2016	Berkeley Ballet Theater, Berkeley, CA	Faculty, Modern
2014, 2015	Jingle Jam Workshop, Alhambra, CA	Guest Faculty, Ballet
2013 – 2014	The Dance Stop, Marietta, GA	Faculty, Ballet/Modern
2011 – 2013	Jayvee Dance Center, Alhambra, CA	Faculty, Ballet
2012	The Pasadena Dance Festival, CA	Guest Faculty, Ballet
2009 – 2011	Camelot Academy, Orange, CA	Faculty, Ballet/Jazz
2007 – 2009	Progressive Dance Studio, Englewood, NJ	Faculty, Ballet/Jazz
2007	The American College Dance Festival, TX	Guest Faculty, Ballet

### SERVICE

2015 – Current	Dance and Performance Studies Curriculum Committee, UC Berkeley
2015 - Current	Board Member, Sacred Dance Guild
2016	Bay Area Dance Exchange Guest Faculty, Mills College, CA
2014	Co-Editor, Congress on Research in Dance Conference Proceedings
2012	UCR Alumni & Friends Reception Coordinator, CORD Conference
2011	<i>VOLTA</i> Performance Event Co-Curator, Culver Center, Riverside, CA
2011	Website Construction, Dance Under Construction Graduate Conference
2010	Dance, Research Assistant, University of California, Riverside
2008 – 2009	<i>Women and Performance</i> Collective Member. New York, NY
2007	Committee Member, Mimir Music Festival, Fort Worth, TX
2006 – 2007	Board Member, Ballet Concerto, Fort Worth, TX

### MEMBERSHIPS

Congress on Research in Dance, Society of Dance History Scholars, American Academy of Religion, Sacred Dance Guild, American Association for University Women, Kappa Alpha Theta

### ARTS ADMINISTRATION EXPERIENCE

2008 – 2009	<i>Women and Performance</i> Journal, NY	Editorial Intern
2007	John F. Kennedy Center, Washington D.C.	Press Intern
2006 – 2007	Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, TX	Grants Coordinator
2005 – 2007	<i>DANCE</i> , Dallas Dance Council, TX	Contributor/Author
2004 – 2006	Baskerville Publishers, Fort Worth, TX	Editor

### LANGUAGES

English (Read/Spoken/Written); French (Read/Written)

### CHOREOGRAPHY (SELECTED)

2016	<i>Missed Connections</i> , Berkeley Ballet Theater	Berkeley, CA
2016	<i>Guys and Dolls</i> , Bentley High School	Lafayette, CA
2015	<i>Do You Know, Maya Angelou?</i> Berkeley Ballet Theater	Berkeley, CA

2014	<i>We Stand on the Shoulders of Giants</i> , Dance Stop Company	Marietta, GA
2013	<i>Wandering through the Labyrinth</i> , Dance on the Edge Festival	San Diego, CA
2013	<i>Wandering through the Labyrinth</i> , Dance Xchange	Temecula, CA
2012	<i>The Nutcracker</i> , The Dream to Dance Foundation	Glendale, CA
2011	<i>Flash Mob Line Dance</i> , Culver Center for the Arts	Riverside, CA
2010	<i>Fiddler on the Roof</i> , Montage Arts	Orange, CA
2009	<i>It's Christmas</i> , Montage Arts	Orange, CA
2008	<i>Inscribed</i> , Dance New Amsterdam	New York, NY
2007	<i>Carousel</i> , Stars Theatre Co.	Southlake, TX
2007	<i>Schoolhouse Rock Live!</i> , Stars Theatre Co.	Southlake, TX
2007	<i>Just 22</i> , Barefoot Brigade Festival	Fort Worth, TX
2007	<i>Alégria</i> , Dance for the Planet	Dallas, TX
2006	<i>Die Hard Fan</i> , Texas Christian University	Fort Worth, TX
2001	<i>Alégria</i> , Regional Dance America, Emerging Choreographer	Houston, TX

### PROFESSIONAL DANCE & THEATER PERFORMANCE (SELECTED)

2013	<i>The Doors</i> , Trinity Movement Choir and Sacred Dance Guild Choreographer: Marilyn Green	New York, NY
2013	Holy Thursday Service & Livermore Protest Choreographer: Carla De Sola	Berkeley, CA
2012	<i>The New Zealand Lord's Prayer</i> , Sacred Dance Guild Festival Choreographer: Carla De Sola	Holland, MI
2011	<i>Untitled</i> , BachSpot Choreographer: Elizabeth Terschuur	Los Angeles, CA
2011	<i>Borderline Bodies</i> , Rhymes with Threshold Choreographer: Minerva Tapia	Riverside, CA
2009, 2010	<i>The Nutcracker</i> , Montage Arts Choreographer: Jeng Halili	Orange, CA
2010	<i>Vertigo</i> , Dance Moves Choreographers: Erica Washington and Victoria Smith	Temecula, CA
2008	<i>Tranquil Disruption</i> , Dance Reach Project Choreographer: Theresa Broussard	Darien, CT
2007	<i>Suite Goodbye</i> , Genesis Dance Collective Choreographer: Theresa Broussard	New York, NY
2006	<i>Ballet Rock!</i> , Contemporary Ballet Dallas Choreographers: Kelley Calhoon & Valerie Shelton-Tabor	Dallas, TX
2006	<i>Oklahoma!</i> , Casa Mañana Equity Theater Choreographer: Paula Sloan	Fort Worth, TX
2005	<i>Vigil</i> , ACDFA Gala Performance Choreographer: Elizabeth Gillaspay	Wichita, KS
2004	<i>Pasion y Fuego</i> , Texas Christian University Choreographer: Fernando Bujones	Fort Worth, TX
2004	<i>Beauty &amp; the Beast</i> , Casa Mañana Equity Theater Choreographer: Julie Letsche	Fort Worth, TX
2004	<i>Mary Kay Industrial Show</i> , Dallas Convention Center	Dallas, TX

2004	<i>Velvet</i> , Texas Christian University Choreographer: Li-Chou Cheng	Fort Worth, TX
2003	<i>Texas Legacies</i> , Pioneer Amphitheater Choreographer: Jose Ochoa and Vicki McLean	Canyon, TX

### DANCE TRAINING

#### **Ballet Training** (Cechetti and Vaganova)

2013	Ballet Magnificat! Teacher Training Certificate in Vaganova Technique
2009-2011	Montage Arts, Orange, CA: Jeng Halili
2006	Contemporary Ballet Dallas, Dallas, TX: Valerie Shelton-Tabor, Kelley Calhoon
2002-2006	Texas Christian University, Fernando Bujones, Li-Chou Cheng, Elizabeth Gillaspay
2001	Ballet Austin, Austin, TX (Summer Intensive)
1999	American Ballet Theater, Tuscaloosa, AL (Summer Intensive)
1998	International Dance School (IBC), Jackson, MS (Summer Intensive)
1990-2002	Western Arkansas Ballet, Ft Smith, AR: Melissa Schoenfeld, Frances Duran

#### **Modern Dance Training** (Horton, Limon, Graham, and Cunningham)

2015-2016	Shawl Anderson Dance Center, Berkeley, CA: Nina Haft, Mo Miner
2009-2013	University of California, Riverside: Kelli King, Susan Rose, Wendy Rogers
2007-2009	Peridance Center. New York, NY
2002-2006	Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX: Susan Douglas Roberts, Ellen Shelton, Andrea Harris, Kerry Krieman, Christian Von Howard