## **GESEL MASON**

#### **Curriculum Vitae**

Assistant Professor of Dance, Department of Theatre & Dance 261 UCB, University of Colorado Boulder www.geselmason.com

# **EDUCATION**

#### 2012-2013 University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO

- MFA in Dance
- Primary emphasis Choreography and Performance; Secondary Emphasis Ethnic Studies

#### 1990-1995 University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

- Bachelor of Fine Arts in Modern Dance
- Teacher's Certification in Secondary Education: Major Modern Dance, Minor Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

# **ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

2013- present University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO Instructor of graduate and undergraduate classes in Dance technique, choreography, improvisation, theory and history

2008 - 2011 University of Maryland, College Park, MD Fall 2008 – Spring 2009: Intermediate Modern Technique Spring 2011: Intermediate Modern Dance Technique, Principles of Teaching

# **AWARDS / HONORS / GRANTS**

- 2018 Rauschenberg Artist Residency, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, Captiva, FL
- 2017 CU Boulder GCAH Creative Research Grant for (\$3,000)
- 2017 CU Boulder Kayden Research Award for
- 2017 CU Boulder Outreach Award for CU Boulder Department of Theatre & Dance, Dance Outreach (with Sowah, Wilkins, cm BT (0) -3 (0) -3 ()) 3BT (, r) 6 (d) 32 ( (s) -1 TT21 ) 2 ( ()) ) Tj ET Q q 0.24 0 0 0.24 6

(\$3,000)

#### Gesel Mason - Curriculum Vitae

- 2015 CU Boulder Program Fee Grant to bring Guest Artist Jaamil Kosoko for UN]W.R.A.P: 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)

# **RESEARCH & CREATIVE WORK**

**CHOREOGRAPHY - Professionally Produced** 

(listed by premiere date) Listings marked with an \* were peer-reviewed.

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

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, 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.

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

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

2010 "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)

СО

2006 Wooly 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.

Gesel Mason - Curriculum Vitae

# CHOREOGRAPHY - With full-time academic employer

- 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:

- 2015 Dance Place, Washington, D.C. (Harris)\*
- 2014 American Dance Guild Annual Performance Festival, Ailey Citigroup Theatre, New York City, NY (McKayle)\*

Gesel Mason -

conjunction with schools and community organizations employing the art making process to explore issues relevant to the participants and their community.

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

alongside conversations about the historical impact and ongoing contributions of their work to America's cultural la

	• Performed works by Liz Lerman – ,
	<ul> <li>Performed works by guest choreographers: Bebe Miller - , Victoria Marks -</li> </ul>
1995	<ul> <li>Umoja African Dance Ensemble: Artistic Director, Chuck Davis</li> <li>Company Member</li> </ul>
	Performed work by Chuck Davis as part of America
1994	<ul> <li>Repertory Dance Theatre of Utah: Artistic Director, Linda C. Smith</li> <li>Guest Performer for European Tour</li> </ul>
	Performed works by Doris Humphrey - and Helen Tamiris – and Helen
1993, 1992	<ul> <li>Ririe/Woodbury Dance Company: Artistic Directors, Shirley Ririe and Joan Woodbury</li> <li>Guest performer</li> </ul>
	Performed works by Alison Chase, Jaime Hampton, Joan Woodbury

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

## UPCOMING AND ONGOING PROJECTS

*No Boundaries* performance and development of digital humanities archive Produced in partnership with Brooklyn-based presenter 651 ARTS, I will perform at the Billie Holiday Theatre in Brooklyn, NY, April 6 and 7, 2018. I will work with Denver production company Digabyte to produce a Decumentary

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