



SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD ARTS AND CULTURES

www.wac.ucla.edu

KATHLEEN KOMAR, DEPARTMENT CO-CHAIR
ANGELIA LEUNG, DEPARTMENT CO-CHAIR

"Thanks principally to the UCLA world arts and cultures department and its satellite projects, [Los Angeles has] also become a major center for ethnographic study and intercultural collaboration." – **Los Angeles Times**

"'Body Tjak' ...Just the sort of intriguing exploration of cultural fusion that makes UCLA's World Arts and Cultures Department always provocative." – **LA Weekly**

"More than any other Southland dance maker, contemporary choreographer Victoria Marks [faculty member] dominated the 12th annual Lester Horton Dance Awards." – **Los Angeles Times**

Degrees

Undergraduate – B.A. in World Arts and Cultures

Graduate – M.F.A. in Dance; M.A. and Ph.D. in Culture and Performance

Department Overview

Led by an interdisciplinary faculty of artists, dance scholars and ethnographers, the Department of World Arts and Cultures (WAC) is organized around two fundamental missions: the generation of critical and comparative insights into the nature of human creativity and the relationship between art and cultural identity; and the creation, study and critique of dance and other body-based modes of performance. Rather than restricting themselves exclusively to a particular tradition or medium of creative expression, the programs of scholarship, art-making and teaching in the Department of World Arts and Cultures find their unity at a deeper level through a shared engagement with problems of cultural and aesthetic diversity, the meaning of tradition in contemporary societies, and the changing social roles and responsibilities of artists, both in the United States and world-wide.

The department's unique degree programs include:

- a B.A. in world arts and cultures, with opportunities for specialization in cultural studies and dance and for community service work in the arts;
- an M.F.A. program in dance, focused on the development of choreographic skills and expansion of the cultural and aesthetic boundaries of modern/postmodern dance practice;

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- M.A. and Ph.D. programs in culture and performance are devoted to advanced ethnographic research on expressive culture.

In addition to its core faculty, WAC plays host to an impressive and constantly shifting array of visiting faculty, including experts in dance/choreography, performance art, aesthetic anthropology, cultural studies and folklore. Our curricular offerings include popular lecture courses such as “Art As Social Action” and “Integrated Arts,” advanced studio-based courses in choreographic process, seminars devoted to the exploration of critical issues in the study of expressive culture, and an unparalleled array of world dance classes. The department also offers students rich opportunities for creative expression, scholarship and arts activism, including concerts and performance events, fieldwork opportunities, and arts outreach projects in the Los Angeles metropolitan area. WAC is also home to the Center for Intercultural Performance, whose innovative programs — including the Asia Pacific Performance Exchange (APPEX) and the UCLA National Dance/Media Project — have attracted scholars, performers, videographers and community-based artists from all over the world. Additionally, the newly founded **Art | Global Health Center @ UCLA** is committed to creating new opportunities for engaged scholarship; and to reuniting the consideration of art and health around the globe.

World Arts and Cultures is an ideal environment for artists, scholars and activists interested in exploring the meaning of creative expression in the contemporary world and for dancers and choreographers seeking to expand and challenge the cultural, intellectual and political horizons of their own practice.

Representative alumni include:

- Heidi Duckler, founder and artistic director of Collage Dance Theater
- Sean Hea Ha, choreographer and dancer
- Carmela Hermann, choreographer and dancer
- Malathi Iyengar, choreographer and dancer
- Lauren Winslow Kearns, dance educator and director of bodytalk dance
- Sharon Kinney, dance videographer
- Arianne MacBean, director of Big Show Company
- Sallie DeEtte Mackie, photographer
- Sabrina Motley, public radio host, Global Village, KPFK-FM
- Bridget Murnane, filmmaker
- Banafsheh Sayyad, co-founder of the Namah Ensemble
- Ilsa Setziol, producer, KPCC-FM radio
- Sophiline Cheam Shapiro, Guggenheim Fellow and artistic director of Khmer Arts Academy
- Judy Miner Van Zile, dance educator
- Lula Washington, founder and artistic director of the Lula Washington Dance Theater
- Jenny Woo, actress
- Linda Yudin, co-director of Viver Brasil Dance Company

**Department of World Arts and Cultures
Faculty**

Professor Judy Baca
Professor Donald J. Cosentino
Professor Irma Dosamantes-Beaudry
Professor Susan Leigh Foster
Professor Michael Owen Jones
Professor Victoria Marks
Professor Judy Mitoma
Professor Peter Nabokov
Professor Allen Roberts
Professor David Roussève
Professor Peter Sellars
Professor Christopher Waterman (Dean)

Associate Professor David Gere
Associate Professor Dan Froot
Associate Professor Angelia Leung (Co-Chair)
Associate Professor Colin Quigley

Assistant Professor Lucy Burns
Assistant Professor Lionel Popkin
Assistant Professor Cheng-Chieh Yu

Judith Alter, Professor Emeritus
E.A. Dunin, Professor Emeritus
Pia Gilbert, Professor Emeritus
Marta Savigliano, Professor Emeritus
Carol Scothorn, Professor Emeritus
Marion Scott, Professor Emeritus
Nathan Shapira, Professor Emeritus
Doris Siegel, Professor Emeritus
Allegra Snyder, Professor Emeritus
Emma Lew Thomas, Professor Emeritus

2007-2008 Lecturers, Adjunct, Joint and Visiting Faculty

Sruti Bandopadhyay
James Bassler
John Bishop
Sandra Chatterjee
Hassan Christopher
Lynn Dally
Robert Een
Simone Forti
Maria Gillespie
Rennie Harris
John Malpede
Janice Meaden
Adam Meckler
Kerry Noonan

Ankica Petrovic
Patrick A. Polk
Viji Prakash
LaTonya Rease-Miles
Dont Rhine
Mary (Polly) Roberts
Anarupa Roy
Robert Sember
Janna Shadduck-Hernandez
Kishan Shah
Aparna Sharma
Beheroze Shroff
Olivier Tarpaga
Jason Tsou
Hesen Weiren