Publications


Dance Performance and Research Laboratory

- Simon Fraser University, Summer Dance Camp, Burnaby, BC
- D’Hercy Dance Co., Spring Dance Camp, Vancouver, BC
- Simon Fraser University, Imaginative Education Research Group Keynote Conference Performance and Lecture, Vancouver, BC
- University of British Columbia, Laboratory for post-graduate kinesiology students, Vancouver, BC Simon Fraser University, Faculty of Education, and School for the Contemporary Arts, Laboratory, Lecture, Burnaby, BC
- Scotiabank Dance Center, Vancouver International Dance Festival (Commissioned live dance performance work), Vancouver, BC
- Plaza of Nations, The Sex Show, Live dance performance, Vancouver, BC
- Firehall Arts Centre, Twelve-Minutes Max, Live dance performance, Vancouver, BC
- Roundhouse Community Centre, Dance Allsorts Presentation, Live dance performance, Lecture, Vancouver, BC
- Dance Saskatchewan, Summer Steps Dance Camp, Regina, SK
- Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts, Laboratory, Kingston, Jamaica
- Nottingham Trent University, Radiator and Digital Cultures Symposium, Laboratory, Lecture, Live performance, Nottingham, UK
- Aristotle University, Laboratory, Live dance performance, Thessaloniki, Greece
- Rolling Stones Concert Hall, International Women’s Day, Live dance performance, Milan, Italy
**Daggering inna di Dancehall:**
Kierkegaard’s Conceptualization of Subjectivity and Nietzsche’s Dionysus in Relation to Jamaican Dance

**ABSTRACT**

This thesis explores dance beyond entertainment, psychological, behavioural or cognitive theory; beyond conventional interpretations of performance, and beyond the disciplinary categories that tend to separate practices in contemporary Western culture. This is a study of “Daggering,” the Jamaican style of dancing marked by violence and raw sexual licentiousness inna di dancehall (in the dancehall)—a male-dominated dance space in Jamaica. The problem of “daggering” analyzed stems from the so-called “causes” of violence. Cultural theorists argue the violent situation in the dancehall and throughout Jamaica is related to the history of colonialism and slavery, poverty, the polarization of the country’s political parties, and politicians who first issued guns. Some philosophers argue the myth of ‘poverty’ is an illusion and world-historical logico-mathematical thinking is delusional.

Primary texts studied are: *The Birth of Tragedy* by Nietzsche, and the *Concluding Unscientific Postscript* by Kierkegaard. I am interested in the inseparability, the embeddedness of Dionysus in all the phenomena of life. The myth of Dionysus contains statements about society and the individual not easily accessible by purely objective techniques. Nietzsche writes: the invisible forces of nature, “through whose gestures and eyes all the joy and wisdom of ‘illusion,’ together with its beauty, speak to us.” Kierkegaard’s aesthetic philosophy of subjectivity challenges the myth of poverty. Thus, this thesis marks a connection between “daggering,” the myth of Dionysus, and subjectivity. The essential question asked: ‘what’ knowledge is of the most worth to transform the individual and a society in crisis?

A philosophical methodology is used to analyze texts in relation to social issues and dance. I conclude ‘how’ to transform the individual and a society in crisis “an apolitical and passionately responsible subjectivity” is necessary.

**Academic Record**

**Doctor of Philosophy** – Arts Education, Simon Fraser University

**Dissertation** – *Daggering inna di Dancehall: Kierkegaard’s Conceptualization of Subjectivity and Nietzsche’s Dionysus in Relation to Jamaican Dance*

**Master of Arts** – Culture and Values in Education, McGill University

**Thesis** – *The Self is the Dancer: A Cross-Cultural Conceptualization of Dance Education*

**Bachelor of Fine Arts** – Specialization in Drama in Education, Concordia University

**Awards**

2011 Simon Fraser University, President’s Research Stipend
2011 Simon Fraser University, H & C Renner Graduate Bursary In Education
2011 Simon Fraser University, Post-Graduate Small Bursary
2011 Simon Fraser University, International Mobility Fund
2009, 2008 University of the West Indies, Post-Graduate Research Award
2006 Simon Fraser University, IVAN Award from for “Most Imaginative Graduate Achievement”
1999, 1998 Heritage Canada Arts Apprenticeship Award for artistic excellence
1998 McGill University, Graduate Bursary for academic achievement