

# CURRICULUM VITAE

**L. Martina Young, Ph.D.**

**Lecturer | Dance Artist | Expressive Movement Facilitator**

e: [martina@apoeticbody.com](mailto:martina@apoeticbody.com)

w: [www.apoeticbody.com](http://www.apoeticbody.com)

p: +1. 7 7 5.8 4 6.0 1 1 7

## **e d u c a t i o n**

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| Ph.D. | Pacifica Graduate Institute<br>Mythological Studies with Emphasis in Depth Psychology<br>Doctoral Dissertation: "Where Grace May Pass: A Poetics of the Body"<br>Thesis: Transdisciplinary approach towards a theory of the body | 2007 |
| M.A.  | Pacifica Graduate Institute<br>Mythological Studies with Emphasis in Depth Psychology<br>Thesis: Ernst Cassirer: Symbolic Imagination and Poetic Perception  | 2004 |
| MFA   | Arizona State University – Dance, with Academic Honors<br>MFA Thesis: "The Sound of One Dancer Dancing"- the solo dance form<br>Special Studies in Kinesiology, Ideokinesis, and Movement Therapies,                             | 1992 |
| BFA   | California Institute of the Arts - Dance, with Honors  | 1978 |
|       | California Community Colleges Lifetime Teaching Certificate  | 1981 |

## **w r i t i n g | o r a t o r y**

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| 2022 | Guest Speaker. "Not <i>What</i> but <i>Who</i> is Beauty?" A nuanced look at the Greek imagination of <i>Aphrodite</i> , the Yoruba <i>Oshun</i> , and Hindu <i>Saraswati</i> . Relationship of beauty to integrative well-being. Site: Promenade on the River. Reno, NV |
| 2022 | Guest Speaker. "bell hooks's Tough Love: Practicing care, covenant, solitude, humor, and peace." Site: The Family Partnership®, Minneapolis, MN. Zoom.   |
| 2022 | Guest Speaker. "Joan. Betty. bell.: The Sound of 3 Singular Women Voicing." Site: Revel Rancharra Independent Senior Living Community, Reno, NV  |
| 2022 | Guest Speaker. "Body-Mind Harmony: How Our Bodies Think, How Our Minds Feel." Site: Revel Rancharra Independent Senior Living Community. Reno, NV  |

- 2021 Guest Speaker. "What the World Needs Now/A Grammar of Empathy©"  
The Imagination as Bridge to Empathic Experience. Northern Nevada Diversity Summit. Site: University of Nevada, Reno. Zoom.
- 2020 Guest Speaker. Relationship of Langston Hughes's poem, *A Dream Deferred*, to films, *What Happened*, *Miss Simone?* and Julie Dash's award-winning, *Four Women* (collab. as dancer-choreographer). 1st Black Film Fest. Site: UNR, Reno. Zoom.
- 2019 Guest Speaker. "Black Swans and the Mythopoetic Image." Considering the fluidity of interior and exterior life in artistic work. The Bold II Conference & Festival. Site: The National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia
- 2018 Keynote Speaker. "A Care for Particulars." African Diaspora Student Graduating Class of 2018. Site: University of Nevada, Reno
- 2010 Guest Artist-Speaker. "Articulating Bodies." Spoken Text for Student Performance. Sites: Damonte High School for the Performing Arts, Spanish Springs H S
- 2009 Guest Speaker. "The Aesthetics of Mythology: Stories of Transformation in Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses*." Theater Department, Univ. of NV, Reno
- 2009 Guest Speaker. "A Somatic Solution: De-stressing the Art World/An Aestheticization of Ethics." 2009 NAC Oasis Arts Conference. Site: Siena Hotel (Renaissance), Reno, NV
- 2008 Keynote Speaker. "Rememory: Dreaming Continuity." 20th Anniv. No. Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society. Site: John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, NV
- 1995 Keynote Speaker. "Still on the Journey." Conference on Arts and Humanities. Site: Longwood University, Farmville, Virginia.
- 1995 Guest Speaker/Expressive Movement Facilitator. Master Dance Series. Site: Santa Monica College. "A Poetics of the Moving Body/The Swan Practice©."
- 1992 Guest Speaker. "African American Dance: A Lived Experience." International Conference on Black Dance. Site: UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

### **c u r r e n t   t e a c h i n g**

- 2022 "The Flow" Chair Dance Class. Designed for elders, persons living with Parkinson's Disease and other neuro-physical challenges. Sites: The Lighthouse/Studio 5 O 2; Promenade on the River Senior Living Community.

## academic appointments

- University of Nevada, Reno. Lecturer. Core Humanities. Discussion Leader. 2017-2021  
CH 201: Ancient and Medieval Cultures; CH 202: The Modern World.  
Reading/writing intensives for the practice of presenting persuasive arguments supported by textual evidence. Provide opportunities for practicing skills of oral expression through thoughtful dialogue with other students. Critical thinking, language skills, and effective communication provides the foundation to succeed in more advanced classes in their majors and in their careers beyond UNR.
- California Institute of the Arts. School of Critical Studies. "Perception & Performance Poetics." Graduate Level. Image, language, perception, memory, and performance. 2015
- University of Nevada, Reno. Associate Professor/Director of Dance, Tenured. 1987-1994  
Program vision and philosophy. Students engage in rigorous practice and understanding of historical, cultural, and performative aspects of dance to enter the field as practitioners, makers, educators, administrators, and/or scholars. Balanced practice of artistic, analytic, and kinesthetic rigors of the field.
- The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. Instructor: Beginning Ballet, 1979-81  
Beginning Jazz, Advanced Modern Dance. Creator/Artistic Director, Orchesis Apprentice Company: provide opportunities for students to develop their performing and choreographic skills, as well as somatic awarenesses. Orchesis Dance Company leadership and contribute to annual faculty-student concert productions.
- California State University Dominguez Hills. Modern Dance Instructor, Beginning. 1978-79  
The CSU Dance Option offers students the opportunity to develop skills to become dance leaders as choreographers, dancers, and teachers in studios and public schools.

## independent residencies conferences

- 2021 Northern Nevada Diversity Summit. Poster Presentation, "What the World Needs Now/ A Grammar of Empathy©." University of Nevada, Reno, NV. 2021
- 2020 Black Film Festival. Nevada Humanities/U of Nevada, Reno. Introduction. 2020  
*What Happened Miss Simone?* and *Four Women*.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VR3c1nHJC54>
- The 2019 *Bold Conference and Festival*. The National Library of Australia, Canberra. 2019  
Performance and Artist Talk: "Black Swans and the Mythopoetic Image"
- Guest Teacher. PilatesCan, Pilates Canberra. *The SWAN Practice*. Principles and Kinesthetic function. Canberra, Australia. Jan-Mar. 2019

- Guest Artist Residency. Belconnen Arts Centre. Canberra, Australia. Feb-Mar. 2019  
 Movement for Mixed Abilities: Parkinson's, Down Syndrome, Autism.
- Keynote Speaker. 2018 African Diaspora Graduating Class. U of Nevada, Reno. May 2018
- Guest Artist Residency. Canberra Dance Theatre, Australia. June 2018  
 Musculoskeletal alignment and expressivity for older professional dancers.
- Teaching Artist. ARTSPACE Tannery. Children's Art Camp. Santa Cruz, CA July 2018  
 "How Swan Bridged the World"- Multicultural stories and art-making.
- Damonte Ranch Performing Arts High School. Dramaturge-Choreographer. 2009, 2013, 2017  
*Hiroshima: crucible of light* (2017); *Ajax in Iraq* (2013); *Sophocles' Antigone* (2009).

**f i l m | m u s i c v i d e o s e l e c t**

- Solo Dancer. Music Video. Stevie Wonder, *Ribbon in the Sky*. Black Bull Productions. 1983
- Choreographer/Solo Dancer. *Four Women*. Julie Dash, Director. 1975  
<https://www.cinema.ucla.edu/la-rebellion/films/four-women>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four\\_Women\\_\(1975\\_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Four_Women_(1975_film))  
<https://www.apoeticbody.com/the-swan-project-directory/category/herstory>

**p u b l i s h e d w r i t i n g s s e l e c t e s s a y s**

- "FLOOD/Mayim, Mayim." *One Of A Kind: The People and Places That Make Reno The Biggest Little City in the World*. Ed./Publ. Mark Curtis. 2019©. 2019
- "The Swan Lectures." Essays/Cultural Criticism. Monthly column, *Reno Tahoe Tonight Arts & Entertainment Magazine*. Ed., Publisher, Oliver X. 2013-2016 (Previous, "Grace Notes")
- "Euterpe's Call: A Melodics of the Mythic Imagination." *Coreopsis: Journal of Myth and Theater*. Ed. Lezlie Kinyon. <<http://societyforritualarts.com/coreopsis/>> 2013
- "perception (w)rites: The Work of Ralph Lemon." *itch journal*. Ed. Meg Wolfe. Issue #12. 2012
- "Art: The How of Culture." *neon*, Nevada Arts Council Arts Journal, Winter Issue. 1993  
 Originally published in *Dance/USA Journal*. Bonnie Brooks, Publisher. '92 Spring Issue.

**sole author, contribution to books**

- "Beloved Bodies: Gestures Toward Wholeness." *The Clearing: Forty Years with Toni Morrison*. Ed. Carmen Gillespie. Bucknell University Press, 2012.

**performance | community projects**      *select*

- Guest Artist. Reno Philharmonic Orchestra. Camille Saint-Saens's *The Swan*. 2020  
Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, NV
- Black Swans, an opera poem*. Original Ensemble Work. Riverside Artist Lofts, Reno, NV 2018
- Destination Dance / 2018 ARTOWN. *Nigunim: soulful prayer songs* 2018  
Site-specific performance work, Nevada Museum of Art Sculpture Garden.
- Guest Dance Photographer. Oberlin Dance Company Residency. ARTOWN. July 2016
- International Exhibit of Contemporary Art. Assisi, Italy. *SWAN Performance III & IV*. 2014, 2015
- Nevada Repertory Theater. Choreographer. Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses*. 2009
- FLOOD/Mayim, Mayim*. Choreographer. Interactive, TriCity community-specific work. 2007  
Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts Plaza, Reno, NV
- Amigas*. Original two-person play from book, *Amigas: Letters of Friendship and Exile*. 2003  
Commissioned by author-poets Emma Sepúlveda and Marjorie Agosín, Nevada Art  
Museum w/Nevada Shakespeare Company. 2003 NEA Creative Project Grant.
- American Repertory Dance Theatre. Bonnie Oda, Janet Eilber, Artistic Dir's. 1995-1997  
Reconstruction and performance of works by Martha Graham, Mary Wigman,  
Ruth St. Denis, Sophie Maslow, Lester Horton, Pearl Primus, Donald McKayle.

**fellows hips      grants      scholar ships      awards**

- Nevada Arts Council Project Grant, *Black Swans, an opera poem*© 2018-19
- Nevada Arts Council Jackpot Grant, *SWAN Book IV* (Literary) 2017
- Award of Excellence, Traditional Association of Cultural Harmony, Nevada 2016
- Nevada Arts Council: Artist Fellowships, Project, Grants Artist Residencies 1987-2017
- Neila and Candadai Independent Scholar Travel Grant, RMMLA Conference 2009
- Governor's Arts Award for Excellence in the Arts, Nevada Arts Council 2008

Rosemary McMillan Lifetime Achievement Award, Sierra Arts Foundation	2005
National Endowment for the Arts Creative Project Grant w/NV Shakespeare Company	2003
Professional Artist Fellowship, Sierra Arts Foundation	1994,1997, 2001
The Los Angeles Lehman Award for Excellence in the Arts	2001
Nevada Women’s Fund, Academic Scholarship	1989, 1990
Arizona State University Academic Scholarship, Graduate Assistantship, Dean’s List	1990, 1991
California Community Foundation Brody Artist Fellowship	1987
National Endowment for the Arts Choreographer’s Fellowship	1983,1984,1985
Los Angeles Vanguard Award for Outstanding Solo Choreography/Performance	1982, 1983
Virginia Commission for the Arts Project Grant (The College of William and Mary)	1981
Miami International Film Festival 1st Place Award for Experimental Dance Film	1977
Ahmanson Scholarship. California Institute of the California Institute of the Arts	1976-78

## **current literary project**

Book. *Collaborating Intelligences: An Imaginal Conversation with Clara Pilates*©2020.

\*For Lecture and Performance Bookings, please contact: Rachel Cohen, Cadence Art Network, [rachel@cadencearts.com](mailto:rachel@cadencearts.com)

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