

CURRICULUM VITAE

L. Martina Young

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education

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

invitationals

- 2024 Professional Artist | Mentor. "Longevity Course." Stanford University. Winter 2024.
Interviewed by Undergraduates as part of the Performing Arts Legacy Project (PAL).
<https://performingartslegacy.org/younglmartina/>
- 2023 Professional Artist. Performing Arts Legacy Project (PAL). Member of the first
Los Angeles | West Coast Cohort: Los Angeles Inner City Cultural Center (LAICCC).
<https://www.innercityculturalcenter.org/performing-arts-legacy-project.html>

academic appointments

- University of Nevada, Reno. Core Humanities. Lecturer | 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 for foundational success in advanced classes in their majors and in their careers beyond the university.
- California Institute of the Arts. School of Critical Studies. "Perception, Poetics, Performance." Graduate Level. Practice and inquiry on image, language, performance. 2015
- University of Nevada, Reno. Associate Professor, Director of Dance, Tenured. 1987-1994
Program vision and philosophy. New Course Development: African American Dance; Performance; Teaching K-12. Curator of The Choreographer's Forum: independent presentations with community and academic communities engagement in aesthetic discussion of the dancers' art form. 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. Attentive to a balanced practice of analytic, artistic, historic, and the kinesthetic rigors of the field.
- The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA. Instructor: Beginning Ballet, Beginning Jazz, Advanced Modern Dance. Artistic Director, Orchesis Apprentice Company: exploratory and conceptual creative work for students' development of choreographic and performance skills, somatic poetic awarenesses. Orchesis Dance Company choreography for annual faculty-student concert productions. 1979-81
- 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.

published writings select

- "An Expressive Body: The Beauty of Dancing in Elder Life." Essay. 2024
Coreopsis: Journal of Myth & Theater. Editor, Lezlie Kinyon. 2024 Autumn Issue.
<https://societyforritualarts.com/coreopsis/autumn-2024-issue/an-expressive-body/>
- "How One Performance Transformed a Community of Women." Essay. *Sierra Nevada Ally*.
<https://sierranevadaally.org/2024/11/10/how-one-performance-transformed-a-community-of-women/> 2024

- "FLOOD/*Mayim, Mayim*." Essay. *One Of A Kind: The People and Places That Make Reno The Biggest Little City in the World*. Editor | Publisher, Mark Curtis. 2019
- "The Swan Lectures." "Grace Notes." Essays | Cultural Criticism. Monthly Column. 2013-2016
Reno Tahoe Tonight Arts & Entertainment Magazine. Editor | Publisher, Oliver X.
- "Euterpe's Call: A Melodics of the Mythic Imagination." Essay. *Coreopsis: Journal of Myth & Theater*. Editor, Lezlie Kinyon. <http://societyforritualarts.com/coreopsis/> 2013
- "perception (w)rites: a *respondeo* | On the Work of Ralph Lemon." Essay. *itch journal*. 2012
Editor, Meg Wolfe. Issue #12.
- "Art: The *How* of Culture." Essay. *neon*, Nevada Arts Council Arts Journal, Winter Issue. 1993
First published in *Dance/USA Journal*. Bonnie Brooks, Editor. 1992 Spring Issue.

sole author, contribution to books

- "Beloved Bodies: Gestures Toward Wholeness." *The Clearing: Forty Years with Toni Morrison*.
Essay on Toni Morrison's poetic of the body. Bucknell University Press, 2012. Editor,
Carmen Gillespie.

o r a t o r y | t a l k s

- 2022 Guest Speaker. "Not *What* but *Who* is Beauty?" A nuanced look at the Greek imagination of *Aphrodite*, the Yoruba *Oshun*, and Hindu *Saraswati*. Relationship of beauty to integrative well-being. Jan. 25. Site: Promenade on the River. Reno, NV
- 2022 Guest Speaker. Zoom. "bell hooks's Tough Love: Practicing care, covenant, solitude, humor, and peace." (Feb. 25). Site: The Family Partnership®, Minneapolis, MN.
- 2022 Guest Speaker. "Joan. Betty. bell. | The Sound of Three Singular Women Voicing." On the legacies of Joan Didion, Betty White, and bell hooks. March 22. Site: Revel Rancharra Independent Senior Living Community, Reno, NV
- 2022 Guest Speaker. "Body-Mind Harmony: How Our Bodies Think and Our Minds Feel." (July 6). Site: Revel Rancharra Independent Senior Living Community. Reno, NV
- 2021 Guest Speaker. Zoom. "What the World Needs Now, ... A Grammar of Empathy." The body's imagination as bridge to empathic experience. 2021 Northern Nevada Diversity Summit. April 8. Site: University of Nevada, Reno.

- 2020 Guest Speaker. Zoom. Opening talk for the University of Nevada, Reno's 2020 Black Film Festival. Correlating the relationship of Langston Hughes's poem, *A Dream Deferred*, to films, *What Happened*, *Miss Simone?* and Julie Dash's award-winning, *Four Women*. (Sept. 24). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VR3c1nHJC54>
- 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. March 28. <https://youtu.be/FvPKJCCtpog?si=mlOoCGHu3gjN1pno> Site: The National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia
- 2018 Keynote Speaker. "A Care for Particulars." 2018 African Diaspora Student Graduating Class. May 16. Site: Dec. Joe Crowley Student Union, 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 High School
- 2009 Guest Speaker. "The Aesthetics of Mythology: Stories of Transformation in Mary Zimmerman's *Metamorphoses*." Theater Department, University of Nevada, Reno
- 2009 Guest Speaker. "A Somatic Solution: De-stressing the Art World | An Aestheticization of Ethics." 2009 Nevada Arts Council's Oasis Arts Conference. Site: Renaissance Hotel, Reno, NV
- 2009 Guest Speaker. "A Poetics of Identity and Hierarchal Power." Site: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Reno, Nevada
- 2008 Guest Speaker. "Rememory: Dreaming Continuity." 20th Anniversary Northern Nevada Black Cultural Awareness Society. Site: John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, NV
- 1995 Keynote Speaker. "Arts and Civility." Site: Longwood University, Farmville, Virginia.
- 1995 Workshop. Master Dance Series. Site: Santa Monica College. "A Poetics of the Body."
- 1992 Panel Speaker. "African American Dance: A Lived Aesthetic." International Conference on Black Dance. Site: UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

film | music video

- Choreographer, Solo Dancer. *Four Women*. Julie Dash, Director. 1976
<https://youtu.be/ebR-gG3vfJ8?si=cL0tzoXbNYBxpbN2>
- Solo Dancer. Music Video. *Ribbon in the Sky*. Stevie Wonder. Black Bull Productions. 1983
<https://youtu.be/zO2-klqsGL4?si=bMFtlB9qfN41hvEU>

Choreographer, Cameo Appearance. *Dancing in the Sheets*. Shalimar. 1984
https://youtu.be/fZmHu1t_5X0?si=PI7WZHrVhM0BJmIY

Choreographer. *I Love You, Babe*. Babyface. 1986
<https://youtu.be/QWC0SiQ55kE?si=R1fCy7ppBBtdgKp2>

i n d e p e n d e n t r e s i d e n c i e s & c o n f e r e n c e s s e l e c t

Northern Nevada Diversity Summit. Presentation, "What the World Needs Now | A Grammar of Empathy." University of Nevada, Reno, NV. 2021

University of Nevada's 1st Black Film Festival. Nevada Humanities | U of Nevada, Reno. 2020
Film Introduction: *What Happened Miss Simone?* and *Four Women*.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VR3c1nHJC54>

2019 BOLD II 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*. Jan-Mar. 2019
Principles, Anatomy, and Kinesthetic function. Canberra, Australia.

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, The 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).

p e r f o r m a n c e | c o m m u n i t y p r o j e c t s s e l e c t

Guest Dance Artist. Ageless Reading Theater's 20th Anniversary. Honoring Sylvia Young, 2023
Creator/Artistic Director of Ageless Reading Theater. Site: Reno Little Theater, NV

Guest Dancer Artist. Promenade on the River Senior Community. Performance and Talk. 2022
1-hour performance and discussion of works, history, and aesthetic approaches.

Guest Dance Artist. Camille Saint-Saens's <i>The Swan</i> . Reno Philharmonic Orchestra. Laura Jackson, Conductor. Site: Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, NV	2020
<i>Black Swans, an opera poem</i> . Original Ensemble Work. Riverside Artist Lofts, Reno, NV	2018
Destination Dance / 2018 ARTOWN. <i>Nigunim: soulful prayer songs</i> Site-specific performance work. Nevada Museum of Art Sculpture Garden.	2018
International Exhibit of Contemporary Art. Assisi, Italy. <i>SWAN</i> Performance III & IV. Aesthetic investigations of the 'swan' trope in Alchemy ("Hieros Gamos" 2014); ("Solitudine" 2015). Site: Città di Assisi, UNESCO World Heritage Site.	2014, 2015
Choreographer. Nevada Repertory Theater. Mary Zimmerman's <i>Metamorphoses</i> .	2009
<i>FLOOD/Mayim, Mayim</i> . Choreographer. Interactive, TriCity community-specific work. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts Plaza, Reno, NV	2007
Guest Dance Artist. <i>Elegy</i> . Reno Chamber Orchestra. Vahe Khochayan, Conductor. Site: Nightingale Concert Hall, University of Nevada, Reno	2001
Guest Dance Artist. <i>The Grand Canyon Suite</i> . Northern Nevada Concert Orchestra. George Rosenberg, Conductor. Site: Elko Convention Center, Elko, NV	1994
<i>Amigas</i> . Original two-person play from book, <i>Amigas: Letters of Friendship and Exile</i> . Commissioned by author-poets Emma Sepúlveda and Marjorie Agosín, Nevada Art Museum w/Nevada Shakespeare Company. 2003 NEA Creative Project Grant.	2003
American Repertory Dance Theatre. Bonnie Oda, Janet Eilber, Artistic Dir's. Reconstruction and performance of works by Martha Graham, Mary Wigman, Ruth St. Denis, Sophie Maslow, Lester Horton, Pearl Primus, Donald McKayle.	1995-1997

f e l l o w s h i p s g r a n t s s c h o l a r s h i p s a w a r d s

Nevada Arts Council Project Grant, <i>Black Swans, an opera poem</i>	2018
Nevada Arts Council Jackpot Grant, <i>SWAN Book IV</i> (Literary)	2017
Award of Excellence, Traditional Association of Cultural Harmony, Nevada	2016
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
Nevada Arts Council: Artist Fellowships, Project Grants, Artist Residencies	1987-2018
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 Arts	1976-78

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

The Flow© Expressive Dance Movement Chair Class. Designed for elders, persons living with Parkinson’s Disease and other neuro-physical challenges. Sites: Promenade on the River; Revel Rancharrah Senior Living Community Reno, NV 2022 -

c o m m u n i t y s e r v i c e s e l e c t

Artistic Advisory Review Panelist. *Dog Days Dance Festival*. Site: Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts Education and Development. Reno, NV 2022, 2023, 2024

Guest Dance Photographer. Oberlin Dance Company Residency. July ARTOWN. Photo-documentary, “The Making of a Dance” - a new work with Reno-based dancers and professional dancers of Oberlin Dance Company (ODC). Site: Fascinating Rhythm School of Performing Arts, Reno, NV 2016

Edited 2024.