

# CHRISTINE MCMILLAN

---

---

Salt Lake City, UT 84103 | [christine.mcmillan@utah.edu](mailto:christine.mcmillan@utah.edu) | 347-731-1135

## **EDUCATION**

### ***Master of Fine Arts in Dance, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 2015***

Studies Include: Alexander Technique, Composition, Improvisation, Laban Movement Analysis, Ballet Technique through the lens of Alexander Technique and the DART procedures, Contemporary Modern Technique, Choreography, 20th Century American Concert Dance History, Dance in Africa and the Diaspora, Pilates, and Screendance.

Faculty Include: Simone Ferro, Luc Vanier, Elizabeth Johnson, Gerald Casel, Debra Loewen, Maria Gillespie, Ferne Caulker-Bronson, Marcia Parsons, Christina Briggs-Edwards, and Ellen Bromberg.

### ***Bachelor of Science in Ballet & Psychology, Indiana University, 1990***

Studies Include: Ballet Technique, Pointe, Pas de Deux Partnering, Character Dance, Jazz Dance, and Choreography.

Performing included soloist roles in Balanchine's *Concerto Barrocco*, *Tarantella Pas de Deux*, *Who Cares?*, and *Donizetti Variations*.

Faculty Include: Jean Pierre Bonnefoux, Patricia McBride, Jacques Cesbron, Virginia Cesbron, and Jurgen Pagels.

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE (DANCE)**

### **University of Utah, School of Dance,**

*Ballet Program Head* (2021-present),

*Assistant Professor, Lecturer* (2020-present)

*Visiting Assistant Professor* (2017-2019)

#### **Courses Taught:**

- Ballet Technique (Intermediate & Advanced Levels)
  - BALLE 2290, 3290, 4290, & 4590
  - DANC 2311/6111 & 3311/6131
- Pointe/Variations (Intermediate & Advanced Levels)
  - BALLE 2200, 3200, 4200, & 4500
- Choreography/Composition (undergraduate and graduate level courses)
  - BALLE 4700 Choreography I
  - BALLE 6700 Creative Practice I

- Pedagogy (undergraduate and graduate level courses)
  - BALLE 4780 Ballet Pedagogy I
  - DANC 6520 Advanced Principles of Teaching
  - BALLE 6912 (Individual pedagogy based graduate projects)
- Anatomy (undergraduate and graduate level courses)
  - BALLE 4401 Anatomy for Dance
  - BALLE 4402 Experiential Anatomy for Dance
  - BALLE 6400/DANC 6640 Graduate Anatomy for Dance and Experiential Applications
- Somatics (created a graduate Special Topics course that was co-taught with Luc Vanier)
  - DANC 6961 Special Topics: Somatics & Alexander Technique
- Independent Studies and Directed Research
  - BALLE 4800 (Individual undergraduate research/studies)
  - DANC 6951 (Graduate directed research project focusing on anatomy)

**Utah Ballet Summer Intensive (UBSI) at the University of Utah (2018, 2020, 2021, 2022)**

- Ballet, Pointe, & Variations (All Levels), Conditioning for Dancers, Dancer Wellness Presentation Lecture, Yoga, & Somatics
- Created Revitalized Dancer & Somatics program, a specialized program in Somatics and Dancer Wellness, for UBSI 2022.

**BalletNext** – Michelle Wiles artistic director (2021)

- Guest Teacher for Company Ballet Class

**Tanner Dance Summer Intensive (2021)**

- Ballet and Conditioning classes for high school students

**Jessica Lang Dance (2019)**

- Guest Teacher for Company Ballet Class

**American College Dance Association** – Northwest Conference (2019)

- “Ballet Through a Somatic Lens” & “Yoga for Dancers”

**New York University, Tisch School of the Arts**

*Adjunct Instructor (2016-2017)*

- Advanced Ballet & Somatics

**Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance (2008 & 2012-2017)**

- Company Ballet Class & Rehearsal Assistant

**Joffrey Ballet School Summer Intensive (2016)**

- Contemporary/Modern, Ballet, Pointe, Yoga & Dance Conditioning

**Gibney Dance Center (2016-2018)**

- Beginning & Professional Ballet Open Classes

**Illinois Wesleyan University (2016)**

- Ballet & Contemporary/Modern Masterclasses

**American College Dance Association - North Central Conference (2015)**

- “A Somatic Approach to Ballet” & “Yoga for Dancers”

**Ben Munisteri Dance Projects (1999-2010)**

- Taught and assisted Ballet & Contemporary/Modern Masterclasses on tour

**Atlantic Contemporary Ballet Theatre (2000-2003)**

- Advanced Ballet Guest Teacher

**Roxey Ballet (1999-2000)**

- Advanced Ballet Guest Teacher

**Rebecca Kelly Ballet (1998-1999)**

- 'Kids ONSTAGE' program & Company Ballet Class

**Colin Connor (1998)**

- Rehearsal Assistant during the Alvin Ailey Summer Program

**Richmond Ballet (1990-1996)**

- Lecture Demonstrations in Richmond elementary schools

**Indiana University (1988-1990)**

- Non-Major Elective Ballet Classes (Beginning/Intermediate) & Children's Ballet Classes

**PROFESSIONAL PERFORMING EXPERIENCE**

**The Metropolitan Opera (NY): (1998-2017)**

Performed in over 45 operas including working with choreographers and directors in the creation and/or re-staging of productions. Includes international tours, live international HD broadcasts, and performances on PBS.

**Notable Choreographers:** Christopher Wheeldon, Alexei Ratmansky, Benjamin Millepied, Doug Varone, Mark Morris, Mark Dendy, Graciela Daniele, Joanne Madore, Robert LaFosse, Sean Curran, Sergei Gritsai, Ben Wright, Danny Pelzig, Lionel Hoche, Graeme Murphy, Ron Howell, Kelly Devine, Do-Do Huang, and Chiang Ching.

**Notable Directors:** Julie Taymor, Mary Zimmerman, Francesca Zambello, Fiona Shaw, Robert Lepage, Michael Grandage, Steven Wadsworth, Des McAnuff, Phelim McDermott, Laurent Pelly, Adrian Noble, and Andre Serban.

**Performed soloist or featured roles in the following operas:**

*Aida* (Sonja Frisell/Alexei Ratmansky)

*Les Troyens* (Francesca Zambello/Doug Varone)

*La Traviata* (Franco Zeffirelli/Maria Benitez)

*Armida* (Mary Zimmerman/Graciela Daniele)

*Parade* (John Dexter/Gray Veredon)

*Lucia di Lammermoor* (Mary Zimmerman/Danny Pelzig)

*Adriana Lecouvreur* (Mark Lamos/Sergei Gritsai)

*Iphigenie en Tauride* (Steven Wadsworth/Danny Pelzig)

*Sly* (Marta Domingo)

**Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance (NY): (2000-2017)**

Danspace at St. Mark's, the Yard, Joyce Soho, James Cohan Gallery, and Chelsea Art Museum, Jack Crystal Theater, and east coast tours

**Ben Munisteri Dance Projects (NY): (1999-2010)**

The Joyce Theater, Dance Theater Workshop, Jacob's Pillow, Danspace at St. Mark's, PS 122, The Duke on 42<sup>nd</sup> St., Thalia Theater, Joyce Soho, Joe's Pub, and national tours

**Atlantic Contemporary Ballet Theatre (NJ): (1996-2003) *Nutcracker* guest artist**

**Rebecca Kelly Ballet (NY): (1998-2000) Kaye Playhouse and Lake Placid, NY**

**Roxey Ballet (NJ): (1998-2000) *Nutcracker* and *Cinderella* guest artist**

**Poppo and the GoGo Boys (NY): (1996-1999) Joyce Theatre, La Mama, and Brazil tour**

**Additional NY performance and collaboration work with:** (1996-2017) Rebecca Stenn, Trebien Polard, Sarah Weber-Gallo, Andreas Bjorneboe, Robert Atwood, Leda Meredith, Young Soon Kim White Wave Dance Co., and Fabrice Herrault

**Steve's House Dance Collective (Richmond, VA): (1994-1996)**

Performed and collaborated in choreography by Ray Elliot Schwartz, Cherrie Cooper, and Rie Parker.

**Richmond Ballet (Richmond, VA): (1990-1996)**

\**Carmina Burana* (Butler)

\**Moor's Pavane* (Limon)

\**Tandem Spaces* (Soleau)

\**Faure Melodies* (Soleau)

\**Hymn* (Soleau)

\**Bow Out* (Caniparoli)

\**Street Songs* (Caniparoli)

\**Chopiniana* (Duncan/Fokine)

\**Terra* (Connor)

\**Rodeo* (De Mille)

*Contrapose* (Feld)

*Green Table* (Jooss)

*Who Cares?* (Balanchine)

*Coppelia* (Franklin)

\**Setting Sun* (Burnside)

*Gloria* (Spaight)

*Giselle* (Perrot & Coralli)

\**Nutcracker* (Winslett)

*Lilac Garden* (Tudor)

*Les Patineurs* (Ashton)

*Concerto Barroco* (Balanchine)

*Serenade* (Balanchine)

*Valse Fantasie* (Balanchine)

\**Runaway Horses* (Burnside)

*Romeo & Juliet* (Burn)

*Swan Lake* (Burn after Petipa)

\**Windows* (Winslett)

(\* denotes principal or soloist roles.)

**CREATIVE RESEARCH – Choreography and Re-Staging Experience**

*Here we are/We are here* (2022)

- A contemporary ballet piece on pointe for 5 dancers exploring the concept that not only is each moment is a new moment but also proactively owning it. The piece starts with a sense of vigilance, along with fierceness and a drive to move forward. This transitions into a trio embodying the figurative and literal support we get from one another. The final section furthers the journey of the dancers into a sense of confidence, comradery, and joy. Performed by students at the University of Utah.
- Selected for adjudicated concerts in ACDA's Northwest Conference March 2023.

*...can be acute or gradual* (2022)

- A piece for 6 dancers exploring the idea of trying to maintain and sustain something when the support eventually gives way. Performed by students at the University of Utah.

*Shift & Flux*, Choreographer (2020)

- A piece for 6 dancers focusing on the idea that change is the only thing we can be sure of in life. With the covid crisis, life feels like an unending stream of shifting, changing, modifying, adapting. Juxtaposition of individual movement was used to reflect the individuality of experience but also the reality that we are always relating to others in some form. Performed by students at the University of Utah.

*At This Moment*, Choreographer (2020)

- A commissioned piece for *artÉmotion's* Choreographic Workshop. A dance film was created incorporating site specific elements in and around the Capitol Theatre in Salt Lake City.

*...Or Should I*, Choreographer (2020)

- A piece for 9 dancers exploring the idea of feeling like you can never keep up juxtaposed against the need for a significant pause. Performed by students at the University of Utah.

*ordinary resilience*, Choreographer (2018)

- A piece for 12 women exploring ideas of vulnerability, vigilance, strength, and resilience. Performed by students at the University of Utah and at Sugar Space Arts Warehouse (UT).

*Woman if Possible*, Rehearsal Assistant (2017)

- Rehearsal Assistant for Luc Vanier's piece re-staged on students at the University of Utah

*AND ALSO this*, Choreographer (2015)

- A trio exploring the notion of familiar and unfamiliar terrain and expanding the concept of boundaries, to include mental boundaries, and how we as individuals encounter them. Performed at the Center for Performance Research (NY)

*Woman in Dress*, Choreographer (2014-2015)

- Choreographed by utilizing several somatic techniques, a solo was created exploring an individual's internal landscape in relation to TCM meridians. Performed at ACDA, Annual Somatic Dance Conference (MA), Dance Makers (Milwaukee, WI), and Red Bean Studios (NY)

Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance, Rehearsal Assistant (2012-2017)

- Rehearsal Assistant including teaching and coaching originated roles

*The Pink Floyd Project*, Choreographic Collaborator (2011)

- A collaborative project with Sarah Weber-Gallo for an informal performance in NY

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Somatic Dance Conference** (organized by Bill Evans) (2018)

- Presented Session: "Yield, Push, Reach, Pull in Yoga"

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Somatic Dance Conference** (organized by Bill Evans) (2015)

- Performance of *Woman in Dress*

**American College Dance Association - North Central Conference** (2015)

- Classes Taught: “A Somatic Approach to Ballet” & “Yoga for Dancers” and Performance of *Woman in Dress* in an adjudicated concert.

## **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

**Bessie Award** (aka New York Dance and Performance Award) (2004)

- For a body of work citing performances with Ben Munisteri, The Metropolitan Opera, and “*the ability to illuminate abstract work with incandescent muscular intelligence.*”

**Most Memorable Arts Experiences of 2014** – Solo performance cited by Eva Yaa Asantewaa (NY dance critic) (2014)

**Chancellor’s Graduate Student Award** (2013 & 2014)

**UWM Graduate Student Departmental Award** (2013 & 2014)

**Golden Key International Honor Society** (2014-present)

**National Art and Letters Award** (1990)

## **YOGA, SOMATICS, & PERSONAL TRAINING TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**University of Utah Summer Ballet Intensive (UT):** (2022) Director of the Revitalized Dancer and Somatics Track

- Created specialized somatics classes for students to deepen their movement awareness, build mindfulness practices, and address habitual movement patterns to support dancer wellness.

**University of Utah (UT):** (2018)

- Special Topics course in Somatics for graduate students

**New York University Tisch School of the Arts (NY):** (2016-2017)

- Somatics class incorporating yoga, Hanna somatics, Pilates, and experiential anatomy

**Brouk Moves, Inc. (NY):** (2000-2018)

- Personalized private or small group in home yoga and personal training sessions for all levels

**The Metropolitan Opera (NY):** (2009-2017, 2020-present via Zoom)

- Yoga teacher for choristers, musicians, administrators, and dancers

**Joffrey Ballet School Summer Intensive (NY):** (2016)

- Yoga for pre-professional dancers and Dance Conditioning

**Zenyasa Yoga & Wellness Studio (NY):** (2013-2015)

- Substitute yoga teacher with a focus on slow flow vinyasa

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

**Functional Awareness Movement Educator Certification (FA@ME)** with Nancy Romita and Allegra Romita (2022)

**Ellové Technique Certification** (2021)

**ABT National Training Curriculum (2019)**

- Certification in Pre-Primary through Level 3

**Somatic Exercise Coach Certification** with Martha Peterson (2014)

**Yoga 500RYT Certification** from OM Yoga (2013)

**Yoga 200RYT Certification** from OM Yoga (2010)

**Personal Trainer Certification** from the American Council on Exercise (2000-2020)

**ATTENDED TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES, and ONGOING STUDIES**

**National Accredited Schools of Dance Annual Meeting (2022)**

**Harkness Center for Dance Injury: “Healthy Dancer, Elite Mover” workshop (2021)**

**Irene Dowd: Dancers with Hypermobility Teacher’s Course (2019)**

**NDEO & ISMETA (2019)**

Emerging Pathways within Somatic Movement and Dance Education Conference

**Dance Science and Somatic Educators Conference (2018, 2021)**

**Dancing Around Race Conference (2018)**

**Body-Mind Centering (2018)**

Autonomic Nervous System Workshop with Bonnie Bainbridge-Cohen

**Irene Dowd: Spirals Workshop (2018)**

**Somatic Dance Conference (organized by Bill Evans) (2015 & 2018)**

**Functional Awareness Anatomy in Action (2015-present)**

Ongoing experiential anatomy and somatic studies with Nancy Romita and Allegra Romita

**National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) (2014-2015)**

Courses in Pedagogy, Choreographic Explorations, and Global Dance History

**Alexander Technique and the Dart Procedures (2013-present)**

Ongoing studies with Luc Vanier

**The Breathing Project: Practices in Embodied Teaching (2013-2018)**

Ongoing somatic studies applying Kinesiology, Body-Mind Centering, and Developmental Movement to teaching yoga and movement with Amy Matthews and Sarah Barnaby

**Hanna Somatics** Ongoing studies with Laura Gates (2012-2019)

**Bill Evans Teachers Intensive (2015 & 2017)**

Laban based technique with Bill Evans and Bartenieff Fundamentals with Peggy Hackney

**Restorative Yoga with Minimal Props Teacher Training** with Jillian Pransky (2017)

**Guiding Students into Deeper States of Relaxation Teacher Training** with Jillian Pransky (2017)

**The Roll Model Method - The Science of Rolling** with Dinneen Viggiano (2016)

**The Roll Model Method - Ball Sequencing & Innovation** with Dinneen Viggiano (2016)

**Pranayama Teacher Training** with Cyndi Lee (2013)

**Women Cancer Survivor Yoga Teacher Training** with Tari Prinster (45 hrs) (2012)

**Anatomy Studies for Yoga Teachers** with Jason Brown (108 hrs) (2012)

**Post Natal Yoga Teacher Training (2011)**

**Kinesthetic Anatomy & Biomechanics of the Spine & Trunk** with Irene Dowd (54hrs) (2008)

**Kinesthetic Anatomy & Biomechanics of the Limbs** with Irene Dowd (54 hrs) (2007)

**National Dance Institute (NDI) Teacher Training** in Richmond Public Schools (1995)

**Influential Technique Teachers and Ongoing Professional Dance Training:**

Christine Wright, Zvi Gotheiner, Lupe Serrano, Kim Abel, Paul Boos, Luc Vanier, Gerald Casel, Patrick Corbin, Sean Curran, Merciditas Manago-Alexander, Maggie Black, Marjorie Mussman, Patricia McBride, Leslie Peck, Malcolm Burn, Ferne Caulker-Bronson, Elizabeth Johnson, Andrew Robinson, Charla Genn, Marina Stavitskaya, Sharon Milanese, Megan Williams, and Jaclynn Villamil.

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

**University of Utah – School of Dance (2017-present)**

- Ballet Program Head
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Artmaking Subcommittee
- Graduate Theses Committees
- Concert Director
- Faculty Search Committees
- Recruiting Auditions
- Ballet Program Choreography Committee
- Ballet Program Pedagogy Committee
- Ballet Program Technique Committee
- Undergraduate Committee
- Graduate Committee
- Production Committee
- Scholarship & Appeals Committee
- Attendance Committee
- Undergraduate Honors Thesis Mentorship

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

**The Metropolitan Opera**

- Safety Committee Dancer Representative (2011-2016)
- Contract Negotiating Committee (2006 & 2011)
- AGMA Dancer Delegate (2003-2005)

**American Guild of Musical Artists**

- Board of Governors NY Area Dancer Representative (2008-2019) – Awarded lifetime membership for service



## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA)

Member since 1998

American Council on Exercise (ACE)

Certified 2000 - 2020

National Dance Education Organization (NDEO)

Member since 2014

CORPS de Ballet International

Member since 2018

International Association for Dance Medicine & Science (IADMS)

Member since 2018

*References available upon request.*