

## JANET COLLARD

Dance Teacher | Movement Educator | Choreographer | Movement Director | Dance and Performing Arts Historian  
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### Education

**2021-2022 MA Dance Philosophy and History, University of Roehampton, London, United Kingdom**

Rigorous scholarly academic program studying philosophical and historical topics in dance and the performing arts

Dissertation Title: *Performing Valeska: Reflections on Corporeality, Research and Haunting*, based on the research, development and reflection of my dance theater solo *Performing Valeska* about the life of Valeska Gert, avant-garde artist from 1920's Berlin  
Advisor: Dr. Avanthi Meduri

**2005-2007 MFA Dance Performance and Choreography, Mills College, Oakland, California**

Long established home for women's higher education studying dance composition, technique, and performance studies

Performed in the works of: Martha Graham staged by former Graham dancer Ann Westwick, and internationally renowned choreographers Molissa Fenley, Katie Faulkner and Sonya Delwaide

Written Thesis: *The Dancing Body; and Its Systems of Somatic Support*, including Laban Bartenieff Fundamentals, Feldenkrais, Alexander Technique, Gyrotonic, and yoga

Choreographed Thesis: *The Inherent Knowledge of the Dancing Body*, a dance theater piece using text, song, and video projection considering how our bodies are tapped into knowledge that precedes the brain

**2000-2003 BFA Dance, California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, California**

Rigorous dance technical training program studying dance composition, ballet, and the modern dance techniques of Cunningham, Limon, Graham, Horton, Ailey, Release Technique, Laban, and Bartenieff Fundamentals, selected to perform in reconstruction of Graham's *Steps in the Streets* with former Graham dancer Lyndon Branaugh

### Certifications

**2025 Gyrokinesis Level I Certified Trainer, The Seed Center, San Francisco, CA**

**2023 Gyrotonic Level I Certified Trainer, Gyrotonic Venezia, Mestre, Italy**

**2014 Balanced Body Comprehensive Pilates Instructor, College of San Mateo, San Mateo, CA**

### Teaching

**2026 Gyrokinesis Instructor, Dominican University, Lines BFA Program, San Rafael, CA**

Teacher of the Gyrokinesis Method for the Junior and Senior classes, providing somatic based movement, cross-training, anatomical knowledge and support for their advanced degree in dance

**2022-2024 Pilates Instructor, The Pilates Center, London, UK**

**2022-2024 Pilates and Gyrotonic Instructor, Golborne Place, London, UK**

**2015 to present Choreographer, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA**

Generate and teach choreographic scores, phrases, dance technique and movement for actors to the Bay Area's premier musical theater training company for young artists teens through college and professionals, highlights include: *Carousel, Oklahoma!, Spring Awakening, Bat Boy, A Chorus Line, Next to Normal*, and *Don't Stop Me* an original musical written by Dave Malloy (*Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812*) and Krista Knight (*Lipstick Lobotomy*)

**2013-2015 Adjunct Faculty, College of San Mateo, San Mateo, CA**

Designed curriculum and taught contemporary dance, jazz, ballet and Pilates, exploring technique, composition, choreography and choreographic collaborations, choreographed for Dance Production concerts, fulfilled administrative duties appropriate to position

**2008-2012 Modern Dance Instructor, Mills College, San Francisco State, San Francisco City College, University of San Francisco, UC Berkeley**, contemporary dance, improvisation and choreography classes for beginning to advanced dance students

**2012-2019 Pilates Instructor, Corpo Kinetic Wellness and Rehab Center, Oakland, CA**

**2008-2011 Dance Company Member, Workshop Facilitator, Physically Integrated Dance Technique Teacher, AXIS Dance Company**, taught for AXIS's outreach programs, international summer intensive, youth through adult professional dance and disabled dance and performing arts communities locally and nationally

**2007-2010 Modern Dance Instructor, Pilates Instructor, Choreographer, Shawl-Anderson Dance Center**, thriving, historical center for Bay Area dance, taught youth through professional's modern dance technique, Pilates and choreography for the Shawl-Anderson Youth Dance Ensemble, Berkeley, CA

## **Choreography**

**2026 Spring Awakening**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2025 Oklahoma!**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2025 Heathers the Musical**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2024 Don't Stop Me**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2023 Voicing the Voiceless**, a dance film for Roehampton University at the Old Operating Theater, London, United Kingdom

**2020 Beautifully Grotesque: The Life and Times of Valeska Gert**, a filmed performance for the Rochester Fringe Festival, Nevada City Fringe Festival, Lisbon, Portugal

**2020 Les Miserables**, Throckmorton Theatre, Mill Valley, CA

**2019 RENT**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2019 Shrek Jr., Singin' in the Rain Jr.**, Shanghai Children's Art Theatre, Shanghai, China

**2019 Drowsy Chaperone Jr.**, Bay Area Children's Theater, Oakland, CA

**2018 Next to Normal**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2018 A Chorus Line**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2018 Performing Valeska**, solo dance theater project based on the life of Valeska Gert, Oakland, CA, San Francisco, CA, Berkeley, CA, Boulder, CO, Rochester, N.Y.

**2017 Spring Awakening**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2017 Dracula**, Re:Act Theater, San Francisco, CA

**2017 The Glass Menagerie**, California Shakespeare Theater, Orinda, CA

**2016 Carousel**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2016 Company**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2016 Bach Cello Suites**, solo dance work to Bach's Cello Suite No.4 with cellist Alex Keitel, San Francisco Conservatory of Music

**2015 Don't Stop Me**, Korsa Musical Theater Company, Berkeley, CA

**2013 Planet Z II**, Berkeley Playhouse, Berkeley, CA

**2013, Dance Production**, original dance piece for the dance students at the College of San Mateo, San Mateo, CA

**2014, Dance Production**, original dance piece for the dance students at the College of San Mateo, San Mateo, CA

2012, *Eurydice*, Douglas Morrisson Theater, Hayward, CA

2012 *Assassins*, Assistant Choreographer, Shotgun Players, Berkeley, CA

2010 *Folk Pulse*, original contemporary dance work for 5 dancers, Temescal Arts Center, Oakland, CA

2010 *In Between*, original contemporary dance work for 2 dancers, Temescal Arts Center, Oakland, CA

2009 *Boomerang*, AXIS Dance Company, original dance piece for AXIS educational outreach program, National Touring

2009 *Pomp and Quirkumstance*, original contemporary dance work for Shawl-Anderson Dance Youth Ensemble, Berkeley, CA

### **Performance Experience**

2024 *Performing Valeska (excerpt)*, invited performer, *What's Her Name Podcast* book launch, The Vagina Museum, London, UK

2023 *Voicing the Voiceless: A Living History Performance*, actor and dancer, Old Operating Theatre, London, UK

2018 – 2020 *Performing Valeska*, solo dance theater work based on the life of avant-garde dancer and actor Valeska Gert, San Francisco Bay Area, Boulder, CO, Rochester, N.Y.

2017 *Memory/Place*, Dancer, Nancy Karp and Dancers, ODC Theater, San Francisco, CA

2016 *Splinters in Our Ankles*, Dancer, Gerald Casel Dance, UC Santa Cruz, ODC Theater, Honolulu, HI

2016 *Don't Worry Baby (excerpt)*, Dancer, little seismic dance company, Dolby Laboratories, San Francisco, CA

2016 *Don't Worry Baby*, Dancer, little seismic dance company, Counterpulse Theater, San Francisco, CA

2016 *Six Suites: Suite No. 4*, Dancer, solo piece to Bach's suite no. 4, cellist Alex Keitel, San Francisco Conservatory of Music

2016 *Memory/Place (excerpt)*, Dancer, Nancy Karp and Dancers, The Concept Series with RAWDance, War Memorial Opera House, San Francisco, CA

2016 *Suite No.4 Prelude*, Dancer, Mills Alumni Dance Concert, Lisser Hall, Oakland, CA

2015 *The Love Project*, Dancer, RAWDance, site-specific location, San Francisco, CA

2015 *Perform:Education*, Dancer, Deborah Karp Dance Projects, Temescal Arts Center, Oakland, CA

2014 *Standing on One Leg*, Dancer, Deborah Karp Dance Projects, Joe Goode Annex, San Francisco, CA

2014 *Anya 17*, Dancer, Opera Parallele, Veterans Memorial Theater, San Francisco, CA

2013 *Year of the Snake*, Dancer, Peiling Kao Dances, Counterpulse Theater, San Francisco, CA

2008-2011 *AXIS Dance Company*, Dancer for nationally touring physically integrated dance company, performing in the works of choreographers Joe Goode, David Dorfman, Kate Weare, Alex Ketley, Shinichi Iova-Koga, Katie Faulkner, Sonya Delwaide, and Eric Kupers

2008-2009 *Dance Elixir*, Dancer for choreographer Leyya Tawil, San Francisco, CA, New York, NY, Middlebury, VT

2007 *Castor and Pollux*, Dancer for choreographer Molissa Fenley, with the Fred Frith Ensemble, Lisser Hall, Oakland, CA

2006 *Patterns and Expectations*, Dancer for choreographer Molissa Fenley, Lisser Hall, Oakland, CA

2006-2007 *Li Ciao Ping and Dancers*, Dancer, Oakland, CA, Madison, WI

2003-2004 *Trip Dance Theater*, Dancer, Dorothy Chandler Theater, Los Angeles, CA

2004 *A Hunger Artist, Collage Dance Theater*, Dancer for Heidi Duckler's site-specific dance theater project, Los Angeles, CA

2004 *Emma Nagata Dance Project*, Dancer, Electric Lodge, Venice, CA

2003 *Joe Goode Performance Group*, Dancer for Joe Goode's site-specific dance project, UCLA's Hammer Museum, Los Angeles

## **Festivals/Workshops/Residencies**

**2023 *Movement and the Creative Actor***, movement direction workshop with Ayse Tashkiran, The Mono Box, London, UK

**2020 *Re: Union Biennale Performative Arts Meeting***, online residency to present film of *Performing Valeska*, taught contemporary dance classes, participated in artist talks and feedback sessions, Lisbon, Portugal

**2019 *Dance and Movement Department, University of Rochester***, received humanities grant to present original work *Performing Valeska*, lecture presentations at the Eastman School of Music and German Cultural Studies class, taught contemporary dance, choreography and improvisation classes, Rochester, NY

**2019 *Rochester Fringe Festival***, performed original work *Performing Valeska*, Rochester, NY

**2019 *Boulder Fringe Festival***, performed original work *Performing Valeska*, Boulder, CO

**2019 *Mojo Theater Festival***, performed original work *Performing Valeska*, San Francisco, CA

**2016 *B12***, workshop participant at popular contemporary dance festival, Berlin, DE

**2013 *Candoco Dance Company***, workshop participant for open company classes, Greenwich Dance Studios, London, UK

**2013 *Johannes Weiland***, workshop participant, Mark Morris Dance Studios, Brooklyn, NY

**2011 *Maggie Allessee Artist Residency Program***, dancer for residency with choreographer Katie Faulkner and video artist Michael Trigilio, Tallahassee, FL

**2010 *Bates Dance Festival***, performed with AXIS Dance Company at contemporary dance and music festival, Lewiston, ME

**2008 *Shaw-Anderson Dance Center Artist in Residence Program***, artist in residence culminating in production of evening of contemporary dance theater, Temescal Art Center, Oakland, CA

**2007 *American College Dance Festival***, performed original solo piece, San Francisco State, CA

## **Scholarly Engagement**

**2026 *Dance Studies Association***, participant in mentorship program hosted by the Dance History Working Group with mentor and dance historian Lynn Garafola

**2025 *Dance Studies Association***, member of Practice as Research Working Group, excerpt of dissertation in reading list

**2022 *Embodying the Archive of Valeska Gert: A Performed Lecture***, invited to present lecture by the Scenography Working Group at the Theatre and Performance Research Association (TAPRA) Conference, University of Leeds, UK

**2023 *European Association of Dance History***, member

**2025-Current *Book Project***, developing book about the modern dance history of California

## **In the Media**

**Upcoming *Dancestors Podcast***, engaged in the production of a dance history podcast

**2025 *(Rev)olutionary Woman Podcast***, invited guest on Tes Silverman's podcast discussing my work on Valeska Gert

**2022 *The Constant Scandal, What's Her Name Podcast***, invited guest on popular women's history podcast discussing Valeska Gert

**2019 *Making Faces, The Skirt Chronicles***, interviewed for the French publication to discuss my work on Valeska Gert

## **Awards and Acknowledgements**

**2021 *International Excellence Scholarship*, Roehampton University £1,200**, awarded scholarship to attend University of Roehampton, London, UK

**2021 *Graduate Scholarship*, The Actors Fund \$1,200**, awarded scholarship to attend graduate school by the Entertainment Community Fund (formerly the Actors Fund)

**2019 *Humanities Grant*, University of Rochester \$2,000**, awarded grant to participate as the artist in residence through the Program of Dance and Movement, the Eastman School of Music, and German Studies, Rochester, N.Y.

**2019 *Performing Valeska*, *The Avyarium***, selected by venue to perform in the Rochester Fringe Festival, Rochester, N.Y.

**2019 *Best Set Design*, *Best Costume Design*, Boulder Fringe Festival**, Boulder, CO

**2016 *Scholarship*, B12 €200**, awarded scholarship to attend popular contemporary dance workshop series, Berlin, DE

**2008 *Shaw-Anderson Dance Center Artist in Residence Program* \$500**, awarded stipend for production of original evening of contemporary dance