

FY2012
Choreography
Panelist Biographies

Peggy Myo-Young Choy

Peggy Myo-Young Choy is a choreographer, director and producer, and Assistant Professor of Dance and Asian American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is CEO of The Ki Project, Inc. (a 501c3 supporting creative thinking and intercultural performance for future generations).

Since the 1990s Peggy Choy Dance Company has focused on transformational performance and the dynamic interface of Afro-Asian history, cultural and politics. Her major dance works include “The Greatest! The Hip Homage to Muhammad Ali” (upcoming at Dance New Amsterdam, NY, 2011), “POW!” (2011 La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival 2011), “Gateless Gate: Women of the Scarred Earth” (University of Wisconsin, 2007), “Passage of Oracles” (Moreau Center for the Arts, Notre Dame, Indiana 2004), “Ki-Aché: Stories From the Belly (Danspace at St. Mark’s Church, 1997).

Awards for her creative work and activism include the 2009 University of Wisconsin-Madison Outstanding Woman of Color Award, the 2002 Wisconsin Dance Council Choreography/Performance Award, and the 1994 Wisconsin Women of Color Network’s Woman of Achievement Award.

Choy’s published articles include, “Anatomy of a Dancer: Place, Lineage and Liberation” in *Asian Settler Colonialism: From Local Governance to the Habits of Everyday Life in Hawai’i* (C. Fujikane and J.Y. Okamura, eds., University of Hawai’i Press, 2008), and “Dancing Outside the American Dream: History and Politics of Asian Dance in America,” in *Legacy to Liberation: Politics and Culture of Revolutionary Asian Pacific America*, (F. Ho with C. Antonio, D. Fujino, S. Yip, eds., AK Press, 2000).

Mickey Davidson

Mickey Davidson’s performing experiences include affiliations with Dianne McIntyre’s “Sounds in Motion Dance Company”, “Norma Miller’s Lindy Hoppers”, tap dancers Charles “Cookie” Cook and Buster Brown, “The Savoy Swingers”, Frankie Manning, C. Scoby Stroman, “Roots of Brazil” and “Okra Dance Co”. She has also worked with jazz musicians Cecil Taylor, Sun Ra, Ahmed Abdullah, Jeanne Lee, Oliver Lake, Frank Owens, Hamiett Bluiett, Sam Rivers/Dave Holland, and poet/playwright Ms. Ntozake Shange.

Ms. Davidson is the primary choreographer for her own company MICKEY D. & FRIENDS, a group of dancers and musicians, who explore and perform the interlocking relationship between music and dance. In Sept. 1993 to June 2010, Ms. Davidson was the director of Okra Dance Co. Okra Dance Co. presented four multi-cultural dance programs along the East Coast.

Since Ms. Norma Miller's relocation, Ms. Davidson has maintained her "Jazz Dancers" under the name "The Savoy Swingers". Ms. Davidson frequently partnered and assisted Lindy Hop legend Frankie Manning. Ms. Davidson was one of three choreographers for the European Tour of the Broadway production of "Black and Blue". Ms. Davidson directed Ms. Miller's August 2010 presentation of "Queen Of Swing" at the Schomburg Research Library, NY.

In theatre, Ms. Davidson has an on going relationship with Woody King's "New Federal Theatre" as a choreographer. The most recent project is "Sweet Mama String bean", a play about Ethel Waters starring Sandra Reeves Phillips. This piece was performed at the 2009 Black Theatre Festival in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and the 2010 Bermuda Theatre Festival.

Ms Davidson has M.A. and B.A. degrees in dance education from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. Ms Davidson has been affiliated with "Young Audiences New York" since 1979. On Long Island, she worked with Friends of the Arts and Great Neck Arts Center doing performances, residencies and staff development. Ms. Davidson taught "Dancing Jazz History" at Wesleyan University for seventeen years.

Gary Lund

Gary Lund, a native Iowan, has been a dancer for over twenty-five years. He began his dance career as a member of the Nancy Hauser Dance Company in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In 1978, Mr. Lund moved to New York City where he became the co-artistic director of two duet companies, SHORT SUBJECTS and TWO'S COMPANY. TWO'S COMPANY grew to become a seven-member dance troupe called GLENN LUND DANCE.

Mr. Lund has been awarded artistic fellowships for his choreography by state and local agencies and the National Endowment for the Arts and in 1996, he received a NEA New Forms Florida award.. His works have been presented at the Joyce Theater, Dance Theater Workshop and the Staten Island Ferry, as well as other venues in New York City. His work has also been presented at major European festivals such as the Dance Umbrella, London; Autumn de la Dance, Paris; and the Holland Festival in Utrecht, Holland. In 1988, Mr. Lund's choreographic journey led him to Tampa, Florida where he began a collaboration with composer John D. Mitchell. Together, they created three evening-length programs called "Movement Initiated Sound Effects". Their final collaboration, "Smarter Than Dogs" used computer-generated visual images that were shown on three large screens and manipulated by the performers.

In 1990 Mr. Lund moved to Miami to teach and get his BFA degree at the New World School of the Arts where he was also a collaborating member of "Bad Dog Dance". He was then named artistic director of Ballet Randolph, dba DANCEWAVE. He has taught at The Juilliard School, University of Rio de Janeiro, Laban Institute for Movement Studies, the Centre International de la Danse among others. For the past four years, he has worked at the National Foundation for the Arts Dance Coordinator. He is in his fourth year of teaching at Florida International University.