

VIRTUAL DANCE PRODUCTION

A new course available in both
virtual and in-person modalities.



The Virtual Dance Production course follows a project-based learning pedagogy. While engaged in various digital art-making processes, students create and curate a virtual gallery that explores identity, vulnerability, and embodiment.

PROPOSED COURSE:

VIRTUAL DANCE PRODUCTION

Available at your school beginning Fall 2021

GENERAL INFORMATION

Course Name:

Virtual Dance Production

Instructor:

Katie Pustizzi (She, Her, Hers)

Phone: (617) 285-8568

E-mail address:

ktpustizzi@gmail.com



COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Virtual Dance Production class exposes students to the ever-present digital modality for generating and presenting creative work. Students analyze a plethora of dance-specific, virtual art, which dually provides them with insight into various approaches to digital performance and aids in the students' understanding of their own aesthetic preferences on a digital platform.

After workshoping a variety of technical tools that serve to enhance virtual content, students are given the opportunity to dive into the creative process themselves. This course follows a project-based learning approach, resulting in students completing their own virtual dance project via "The EM(BODY)MENT Project", by the conclusion of the class. Throughout the creation process, students also receive the opportunity to engage in Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process via frequent peer-feedback sessions.

Digital Programs Utilized:

- Final Cut Pro
- Adobe Premiere Pro
- GarageBand
- Adobe Photoshop

Book List:

Hiking the Horizontal: Field Notes from a Choreographer by Liz Lerman

Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process by Liz Lerman and John Borstel



COURSE LEARNING GOALS & SKILLS:

Virtual Dance Production Skills & Learning Goals:

- Music editing/sound score building
- Recording, filming, and directing virtual dance rehearsals, shoots, etc.
- Video editing
- Training and practical use of programs such as: Final Cut Pro, Premiere Pro, GarageBand, etc.
- Research and analysis of current artists and companies that utilize digital performance capabilities

Movement Skills & Learning Goals:

- Movement for the camera
- Improvisation as a means of choreography creation
- Exploration of spontaneous gestures and embodiment

Other Skills & Learning Goals:

- Ability to engage in Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process
- Speak articulately about one's own work
- Openness to feedback, change, and iteration in one's own process and product
- Understanding of Docu-Dance style theater

COURSE ASSESSMENTS & GRADING

-Care Conduct Grade (description below): 20 Points

-Digital Performance Presentation: 10 Points

Students will choose one professional piece of virtual choreography to analyze and unpack. They will present their observations to the class.

-Candidate Completed Interview: 10 Points

Step 1 of "The EM(BODY)MENT Project" mandates that participants successfully record and complete the interview process.

-Virtual Storyboard: 10 Points

Step 2 of "THE EM(BODY)MENT Project" is centered around preparation. Students will create a storyboard for their piece.

-Custom Sound Score: 10 Points

Step 3 of "THE EM(BODY)MENT Project" consists of blending interview dialogue with pre-recorded sound to create a custom sound score.

-Movement & Recording: 10 Points

Step 4 of "THE EM(BODY)MENT Project" is the creation of choreography from spontaneous gestures captured via video.

-Final CRP Engagement: 10 Points

Before completing their final drafts, students will engage in a formal Critical Response Process session with their peers.

-Final Presentation: 20 Points

The class will formally present their gallery of "The EM(BODY)MENT Project" to the greater community.

TOTAL POINTS: 100 Points



C.A.R.E Conduct Policy
Care, Attitude, Respect, Energy

This grade and its policies will be defined and crafted by the students of this course during the first week of school. Students are expected to contribute to a positive learning environment that prioritizes growth over success and exploration over perfection.



THE EM(BODY)MENT PROJECT

Our vessel for learning and creativity

"THE EM(BODY)MENT PROJECT" is a collection of human stories and honest dances. "THE EM(BODY)MENT PROJECT" tells the stories of the loved ones that surround us in our every day lives. Through the use of first-hand sources such as dialogue, spontaneous gesture, recalled memories, and site-specific spaces, artists are given the opportunity to explore the identity of others through the limitlessness of movement, video, audio, and virtual production.

In this project, each dancer will chose to elicit, understand, and then embody the essence of a loved one who has had a tremendous impact on their own identity. Through the understanding of another, the dancers have the opportunity to learn about their loved one's mark on their own life. Through movement via a digital medium, the dancers will strive to document the vulnerability and identity of others through honest and intentional story telling.

JOIN ME FOR THE PREMIERE GALLERY OF
"THE EM(BODY)MENT PROJECT"

APRIL 10, 2021 AT 7:30PM:
[HTTPS://FB.ME/E/18TNDZLCD](https://fb.me/e/18TNDZLCD)

ABOUT THE ARTIST/EDUCATOR: KATIE PUSTIZZI



Katie Pustizzi is currently a graduate student at Wilson College where she is working to earn her MFA in Choreography (expected July 2021). She graduated Cum Laude from Salem State University with a degree in dance in 2014. Katie has received various scholarships and awards over the years such as the "Broadway Dance Scholarship", "Presidential Arts Scholarship", and the "Creativity Arts Award" from Salem State University; the highest honor in the Arts at the University. Most recently she received the Robert M and Brenda Ashton Aiken Scholarship- a global scholarship to study fine art in Italy from Wilson College.

Katie is currently the sole Dance Faculty at the independent high school, Gann Academy, and is an Adjunct Professor of Dance at Dean College. In May of 2019, Katie traveled to Israel to study contemporary dance and Gaga as a recipient of a professional development grant from Gann Academy. While in Israel, Katie had the opportunity to learn from the following 3 companies: Batsheva Dance Company, Vertigo Dance Company, and Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company.

As Founder and Artistic Director of Aurora Borealis Dance Company, Katie works with young pre-professional dancers and brings the professionalism of dance into the lives of these aspiring artists through weekly classes, rehearsals, residencies, and professional performances. Aurora Borealis Dance Company, now in its 9th season, is thriving under Katie's direction, leadership, and vision. Next year, the milestone first decade of the company will be marked by it's transition from a youth ensemble to a professional, project-based company.

CONTACT INFO:

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