

Lee Edwards

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Artistic Journey

Creative Practice: *I am an interdisciplinary movement artist and embodied storyteller, working in dance, sound, video, and ethnography. My practice is rooted in a care ethic, and takes shape through the use of performance, installation, improvisational and somatic techniques, and writing. My work allows for me to make sense of the present by examining it alongside the past in the hopes of creating otherwise possibilities in our nearest future.*

Education

MFA: Embodied Interdisciplinary Praxis in Dance '22	Duke University
Mater's Certificate African and African American Studies '22	Duke University
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance '15	The University of the Arts

Awards, Fellowships, and Residencies

- Kenan Institute of Ethics Graduate Arts Fellowship in Social Choreography and Performance 2021-2022
- Duke University Dean's Research Award 2020 & 2021
- National Endowment for the Arts 2020 Artworks Grant supporting collaborative community-engaged public art projects
- Activation Residency 2019
- Wassaic Project Residency 2018

Papers, Presentations, and Workshops:

- [Thesis](#) – *Cyclical Navigations: In the In Between Exploring Black Memory through Embodied Storytelling*
- Collegium for African Diaspora Dance: Dancing Black Together 2022 Movement Workshop - *Cyclical Navigations: In the In Between*
- *Love as Art Ethic and Art Practice* 2020 Panel at Columbia University

Teaching and Facilitation

- Dance facilitation for *The North Carolina Black Feminisms* course at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 2023
- Embodiment/Somatic Facilitation for *The Meeting Place* at Duke University sponsored by Kenan Institute for Social Choreography 2023
- Embodiment/Somatic Facilitation for *Built By Feel* by Whistle Stop Tours at The Pauli Murray Center in Durham, NC 2023
- Youth and Adult Modern, AfroFusion, Ballet, and Jazz at Empower Dance Studio and Ninth Street Dance Studio in Durham, NC 2022-2023
- Improvisation Fall 2021 Duke University
- Virtual and In person instruction of Dance and Creative Writing at Harlem Children's Zone in Harlem, NY 2019-2020
- Dance Instructor at John W. Hallahan High School in Philadelphia, PA 2018-2019
- Teaching Associate, Emotional and Behavioral Aide, and Substitute Teacher at IMS St. Malachy in Philadelphia, PA 2016-2018
- After School Instructor and Dance and Spoken Word Instructor for OST at IMS St. Malachy and John W. Hallahan High School in Philadelphia, PA 2016-2018

Production Consultant, Operations Coordinator, and Administrative Experience

Duke University Dance Department 2021-2023	Durham, NC
● Artist Production Consultant, Project Management, and Associate Administrator	
● Clear and comprehensive note taking, schedule/calendar organization and coordination, manage budget, create and organize contracts/agreements and other sensitive documents	
● Tech work: video, lighting, prop placement, projection	

- Networking, and liaison between artists, students, faculty, and musicians
- Managed production for five interdisciplinary thesis works including live performance and installation

Quare Dance 2023

- Artistic Consultation, Project Management, Fundraising
- creating of promotional material
- coordination of meetings, schedules, and travel itineraries
- communicating clearly with project partners, artists, and potential donors

New Dance Alliance: Black Artist Space to Create Residency | 2022

Remote

- Curatorial committee coordinator: organization/facilitation of meetings, and agenda creation
- Curatorial committee member: creation of rubric, review and selection of artists for residency

Qinfolk: Queer Trans BIPOC Film, Arts, and Mental Health Festival | 2019

Ithaca, NY

- Production Consultant
- Social media management
- Event operations: set up/load-in and break down, check in artists

University of The Arts | 2013-2015

Philadelphia, PA

- Orientation Coordinator and Leader: planned and managed week-long training for student orientations leaders, planned and led orientation activities for incoming students
- Administrative Assistant to The Dean of Students and The Office of Student Affairs
- Office management: filing, phone calls, sensitive documents, communication with students, parents, and faculty

Pertinent Experiences

- Black Feminist Theory Summer Institute Cohort 2022 at Duke University
- Reckoning and Resilience Working Group 2021-2023 at Duke University
- The Embodiment Institute: Black Embodiment Basics Certification (currently pursuing)

Choreography and Collaboration

<i>reclamation: processing (through) lament</i>	Commissioned by Duke University	Page Auditorium Duke University	2022
<i>Cyclical Navigations: In the In Between</i>		Murthy Agora Gallery Duke University	2022
<i>Gold Mind</i>	Music video for artist Arrow the Symbol	So Far Sounds Philadelphia, PA	2021
<i>Relics of the Afrofuture</i>	Collaboration with Ivy Nicole Jonet	SunTrust Gallery Durham, NC	2021
<i>Mending in Space</i>		ADF Durham, NC	2020
<i>Freedom Dances</i>	Collaboration with movement artists Alyah Baker and Courtney Liu	Nasher Museum Durham, NC	2020
<i>Witness: Neither Here Nor There</i>	Collaboration with artist Nyugen Smith for the 2020 NEA Artworks Grant	Wassaic Project Wassaic, NY	2020
<i>Untitled (2018-2020)</i>		Dixon Place Theatre New York, NY	2020
<i>Now or Then: Strange Fruit (2018-2020)</i>		Wassaic Project Wassaic, NY	2020

<i>Letters II Mama</i> (2017)		Jazz at Lincoln Center New York, NY	2019
<i>A Nation of Strangers</i>	Collaboration with iKADA Dance Company	CitiGroup Theatre New York, NY	2018
<i>Casket Conversations</i>		Jenifer Muller: HATCH New York, NY	2016
<i>Faith</i>		Chi Movement Arts Center Philadelphia, PA	2016
<i>Perspective</i>		Grounds for Sculpture New Jersey	2016
<i>Silence is the Noise of the Deferred Dream</i>		Merriam Theater Philadelphia, PA	2014

Performance

<i>Quare Dance</i>	Black and Brown Ballet/Alyah Baker	Live Oak Theatre Oakland, CA	2023
	Souloworks/Andrea E. Woods & Dancers	NC Museum of History Raleigh, NC	2023 Season
<i>Big Beats</i>	Joanna Kotez	Nasher Museum Durham, NC	2022
<i>What Problem?</i>	Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company	Memorial Hall Chapel Hill, NC	2022
	Indigo Yard Gals	Duke Homestead Durham, NC	2022
	Jasmine Powell	Hillsboro, NC	2022
<i>Fools and Kings</i>	Black and Brown Ballet/Alyah Baker	TheatreLAB Richmond, VA	2022
<i>The XCOPE</i>	Raphael Xavier	Nasher Museum Durham, NC	2021
<i>Continuous Replay</i>	Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Company Andrea E. Woods-Valdes	Von Der Heyden Theatre Durham, NC	2021
<i>How to Avoid Gas Stations & other shit I want to do at night</i>	Ayan Felix	Duke Campus Farms Durham, NC	2021
	Lela Aisha Jones FlyGround	Philadelphia, PA	2016-2020 Seasons
	Jo-Me Dance	Boston, MA	2018-2020 Seasons
<i>Realms: A Soul Opera</i>	Kingsley Ibeneche	Philadelphia Museum of Art Philadelphia, PA	2016

<i>DSCH</i>	Michael Mao Dance	CitiGroup Theatre New York, NY	2019
	Klassic Contemporary Ballet Company	Philadelphia, PA	2016-2019 Seasons
<i>Evergreen</i>	Emily Wexler	MoMA PS1 Long Island City, NY	2019
	Ani Gavino/Malaya Works	Philadelphia, PA	2017-2018 Season
	Putty Dance Project	Philadelphia, PA	2015-2018 Seasons
	DanceSpora	Philadelphia, PA	2014-2016 Seasons

Special Skills:

- Time management, organization, attention to detail, quick learner, harder worker, communicative
- Calendar management, strong writing skills, social media management, event planning, contract/agreement writing, fundraising, conducting interviews
- Proficient in Microsoft Office, Zoom, Canva, Instagram, Google Classroom, Calendly, and GarageBand

References:

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