

Silvita Diaz Brown

Choreographer | Dancer | Movement Educator

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RECENT CHOREOGRAPHIC WORKS

Leyendas y Realidades: Malinche (2025)

- Re-choreographed an excerpt from her 2019 full-length work *Leyendas y Realidades* for Momenta Dance Company's *Color Schemes* showcase.
- Original music by Wiebe Ophorst.

Ellas y Yo Mexicanas: Frida & Juana Inés (WIP) (2024–2025)

- Presented at *The Struggle and Resilience Festival* (Ballet 5:8), *National Museum of Mexican Art*, *Sor Juana Festival*, and *Chicago Park District's Night Out in the Parks*.
- Collaborators: Music by Wiebe Ophorst & Marshall Greenhouse; Costumes by Elizabeth Collins & Ariel Arvis; Poetry by Lani Montreal.

Ellas y Yo Mexicanas: Juana Inés (WIP) (2023–2024)

- Presented at *Chicago Cultural Center Dance Studio Residency*, *The Green* (Millennium Park 20th Anniversary Celebration), and *Death's Door Dance Festival* (WI).

Ellas y Yo Mexicanas: Frida (WIP) (2022–2024)

- Performed as a solo at *Unity Temple Dance Series* (Oak Park).
- Expanded into a trio for *First Draft Festival* (Links Hall), *See Chicago Dance Wave Walls* (Navy Pier), and *The Dance Center of Columbia College Dance Series*.
- 2023 tour to *Death's Door Dance Festival* (WI) and *10 de Octubre-FITSA Festival* (Havana, Cuba).

Visita a Nuestros Muertos (Dance Film) (2021–2023)

- Created with filmmaker Alexandra Yasinovsky, premiered at *National Museum of Mexican Art (Día de los Muertos exhibit)*.
- Supported by *Chicago Dancemakers Forum Digital Dance Grant*.
- Screened at *Links Hall, The Edge Theater, Millennium Park, and 10 de Octubre-FITSA Festival (Havana, Cuba)*

Leyendas y Realidades (Legends and Realities) (2019–2020)

- Acro dance-theater ensemble production, premiered at *Links Hall (Co-Mission Fellowship), Malcolm X College, and FITSA Festival (Puebla, Mexico)*.

Del Otro Lado (On the Other Side) (2018)

- Acro dance-theater duet with Christopher Knowlton and screens by filmmaker Alexandra Yasinovsky.
- Presented at *National Museum of Mexican Art (Sor Juana Festival)* and *Paco González Performance Festival (Galicia, Spain)*.

Llorona (Weeping Woman) (2017–2018)

- Solo work performed at *Free Street Theater, Jello Performance Series, Sor Juana Festival (National Museum of Mexican Art), and Paco González Performance Festival (Spain)*.

Dance for Nanay (2017)

- Choreography for Lani Montreal's play *Nanay*, performed at *Free Street Theater* and *St. Elizabeth Hospital (Chicago Nightingales)*.

Encuentros (Encounters) (2014–2016)

- Acro dance-theater ensemble work, presented with *Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble, Puebla Baila Festival (Mexico), and Cliff Dwellers Foundation*.

Secretos, Conexiones y Revelaciones (Secrets, Connections & Revelations) (2012–2014)

- Acro dance-theater duet with Christopher Knowlton and original music by Rich Logan.

- Presented at *Delhi International Arts Festival* (India), *Links Hall, Harold Washington Library*, and *FITSA Festival* (Mexico).

GRANTS & AWARDS

- **Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble Space Residency fall** (2025)
- **Chicago Dancemakers Forum Lab Artist Finalist** (2025, 2023)
- **Chicago Night Out in the Parks** (2024)
- **DCASE Individual Artist Program Grant (IAP)** (2024, 2019)
- **Chicago Cultural Center Dance Studio Residency** (2023)
- **3Arts Award Nominee in Dance** (2023, 2021, 2020)
- **Platform Award Nominee** (2023)
- **Ragdale Residency** (2022)
- **Chicago Dancemakers Forum Digital Dance Grant** (2021)
- **Arts for Illinois Relief Fund (AIRF)** (2020)
- **Links Hall Co-Mission Fellowship** (2019)
- **Cliff Dwellers Arts Grant** (2014)

EDUCATION & TRAINING

- **MFA in Theatre & Movement**, York University, Toronto (2008)
- **BFA in Dance**, Universidad de las Américas Puebla (UDLAP), Mexico (2003)
- **Study Abroad**, Juniata College (Theatre/Dance & English), PA (2002–2003)
- **Partner Acrobatics Training**, Acroyoga Montreal (2014)
- **Yoga Certifications**, Core Power Yoga (2013), Chicago Yoga Center (2009)
- **The Art of Being Dance/Movement Training**, Ayako Kato (*ETHOS Project Collaboration*, 2022–2023)

DANCE/THEATER PERFORMANCES for Other Choreographers & Companies

- **Momenta Dance Company** – *Light the Flame*, 14th annual CounterBalance Concert, Hoover-Leppen Theater, Center on Halsted (2024)
- **Ayako Kato/Art Union Humanscape** – *LUCA/Res Communis: ETHOS Episode III*, for Chicago Dancemakers Forum *Elevate Chicago Dance*, Palmisano Park (2022)
- **Parijata Dance Company** – *Dance in the Round: How Do I Become WE*, Soham Dance Space & *Night Out in the Parks* (2022)
- **Cabinet of Curiosity** – *Sea Change*, for *Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival*, Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) Chicago (2022)
- **Nejla Yarkin** – *Muse*, for *3Arts Gala*, Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) Chicago (2019)
- **Erica Mott Productions** – *Mycelial*, performed in Cairo, Egypt (dance residency), Bates Dance Festival (Lewiston, Maine), and Hyde Park Art Center (Chicago) (2017–2018)
- **Erica Mott Productions** – *The Victory Project*, performed at Northerly Island (Chicago) and Ingenuity Festival (Cleveland, Ohio) (2011–2012)
- **Adam Rose/Antibody Corporation** – *Vaca Sacra*, The Archer Ballroom (Chicago) & FITSA Festival (Mexico) (2010)
- **Adam Rose/Antibody Corporation** – *Circus of Antitrust*, presented at Links Hall (*LinkUp Residency*) & Hamlin Park Fieldhouse (2009)
- **David Dorfman Dance Company** – Guest dancer in *Underground*, The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago (2008)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **September – December 2024** – *Dance for Health* Modern/Ballet Instructor, teaching at five City of Chicago Regional Senior Centers as part of The Dance Center and Rush University's *Dance for Health* research study.
- **November 2024** – *The Malleable Expressive Body* – *Sildance/AcroDanza Workshop*, The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago.
- **April 2024** – *The Malleable Expressive Body* – *Sildance/AcroDanza Workshop*, Northwestern University.
- **2023** – *The American Dancing Body Symposium*, *The Malleable Expressive Body* – *Sildance/AcroDanza Workshop*.

- **October 2008 – Present** – Yoga & Movement Instructor at various Chicago studios and institutions, including CorePower Yoga, Alas-Wings Yoga, YogaCare, Chicago Yoga Center, Lou Conte Dance Studios, Malcolm X College, The Mayfair Arts Center, and others.
- **October 2019** – *Arts Entrepreneurship Workshop* for Latinx immigrants and refugees in collaboration with the *New Neighbor Arts Entrepreneurship Project* led by Shawn Lent, Instituto del Progreso Latino, Chicago.
- **August 2018** – *Partner Acrobatics Workshop* instructor for Paco Gonzalez Festival, Galicia, Spain.
- **June 2018** – *Dance & Partner Acrobatics Workshop* at Bates Dance Festival, Bates College, Lewiston, ME (as part of Erica Mott Productions).
- **January – April 2009** – Guest Instructor in *Movement and Yoga* for the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Theater Department.
- **June 2008** – Guest Movement Instructor for a *2-day workshop* at Roosevelt University's Conservatory Theater Program, Chicago.
- **2006 – 2008** – Movement Instructor for Theater & Dance, York University, Toronto, Canada.