

Sara Baird

artistic director, anemone dance theater

choreographer

dancer

educator



"luscious" - Jennifer Dunning, *New York Times*

"Sara Baird, choreographer and co-founder of Anemone Dance Theater, is Odysseus' sea siren, mesmerizing us with her spell of pure beauty."

- June Julian, *NY Arts Magazine*

"[Anemone Dance Theater] presents a shared vision that allows for audience member's dreams to interact with those of the dancers." - Nick Feitel, *Gay City News*

"Visually-rich" - Eva Yaa Asantewaa, *Field notes*

Biography

Sara Baird is the artistic director, choreographer and a dancer with **Anemone Dance Theater**, which she cofounded in 2001. She integrates movement with sound, costume, sculpture and visuals to create an ethereal effect and places a strong emphasis on collaborations with artists from various fields. To date, the company has 14 collaborating members working in different mediums. The company has received grants from the American Music Center - Live Music for Dance Program, The Puffin Foundation, support from Princeton University, and was an Artist in Residence at Dance New Amsterdam.

Baird's artistic intrigue and inquiry into the Butoh dance form greatly informs her work as well as the movement philosophies of dance visionaries Loie Fuller, Mary Wigman, Alwin Nicholais, and Pilobolus. Anemone Dance Theater's mission is to share a fresh new approach to dance theater and give the spectator a performing experience where they can be creatively engaged and inspired.

Based in New York City for over fifteen years, she has performed on tour across the United States, to the south of France, and to the lunar landscape of Bolivia's altiplano. During that time, she performed with the Butoh Rockettes directed by Celeste Hastings, Poppo & Gogo Boys, Richard Move for the Guggenheim Museum, VH1, and the 2001 Cannes Film Festival and with the companies of Neta Pulvermacher and Nicholas Rodriguez.

Sara serves the New York dance community teaching yoga and dance. Baird holds a Masters of Fine Arts degree in dance from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee (2005) and a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in dance from Florida State University (1993).

Education

Masters of Fine Arts in Dance, summa cum laude, 2005
University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance, cum laude, 1993
Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida

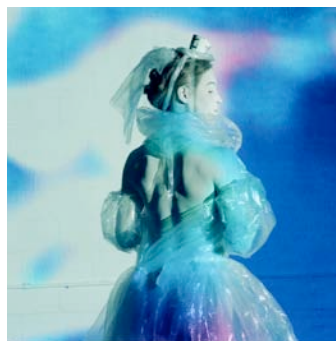
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Professional Experience

Artistic Director, Anemone Dance Theater; New York, NY - 2002-2009

founder, artistic director, choreographer, performer New York City based, local and national touring.

Company Member, Butoh America - with Akira Kasai; New York, NY - 2007

Commission by The Japan Society

Founding Member, KDNY Dance; New York, NY - 1997-2001

Kathleen Dyer, Artistic Director. Soloist with lead roles in NYC seasons

Company Member, Poppo and the GoGo Boys; New York, NY - 1997-1998

Poppo Shiraishi, Artistic Director. Season at La Mama, NYC

Company Member, Neta Pulvamacher and Dancers; New York, NY - 1996-1997

Neta Pulvamacher, Artistic Director. Season at the Joyce Theater, NYC

Company Member, DanceCompass; New York, NY - 1994-1997

Nicholas Rodriguez, Artistic Director. Local, Regional and International touring

Company Apprentice, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company; New York, NY - 1995

Bill T. Jones, Artistic Director

Artistic Direction

Choreographic Works

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| 2007 | CONTRIBUTING ARTIST IN AKIRA KASAI'S BUTOH AMERICA
Commission by the Japan Society
CRS, MIKROS COSMOS - full evening produced by Dharma Roads,
new music collaborations with C. Tignor and M. Young |
| 2006 | NEW ORLEANS MUSEUM OF ART, tour
the HeART of New Orleans - grand re-opening
ARTIST IN RESIDENCE, Dance New Amsterdam |
| 2005 | JOYCE SOHO, Tearing of the Night Sky
Anemone Dance Theater, Slow Six, and Lee Whittier
THE CENTER FOR REMEMBERING AND SHARING
Lacuna, solo
DESIRE SUBMERGED INTO EARTH
Video installation of Tittlipur |

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- 2004** **XO PROJECTS INC**
Slow Six in concert with Lee Whittier & Anemone Dance Theater
ANEMONE DANCE THEATER @ THE PUFFIN ROOM
Full-length evening concert
BODY POLITICS: RE/SHAPING OUR IDENTITIES
Premieres of *Absolution*, *Lacuna*, and *Dans La Nuit*
ADA GALLERY Richmond, Virginia
Full-length evening concert and gallery performance
- 2003** **LISTENING IN THE SOUND KITCHEN**
Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey
Premiere of *Titlipur* with sensor technology
MOVING WATER THEORY
Miyong Song and Anemone Dance Theater
Full Concert, Collaborative Dance and Media Performance
- 2002** **URBAN ZEN**
Premiere: X-mass, Liaisons Avec Osieux
BROOKLYN FIRE PROOF
Gallery Performance, Magdalena and Liaisons Avec Oseaux
BUTOH SUMO COLESLAW WRESTLING
Dining Haul: Unpacked No. 4,
Food Inspired, Food Used, and Food Digested Art
- 1994-01** **INDEPENDENT CHOREOGRAPHY**
6@8 - Soundance Theater, New York, NY, full concert
Patchwork – NYC season, regional tour to Loudoun County, VA
Sisyphus Descending, solo work toured regionally and to Bolivia,
Artist in Residence, Florida State University
Floodtides, duet, *Rigmarole Reel*, quintet, *Straw, Sticks, and Bricks*, trio

Teaching Experience

- 2000-09** **DANCE NEW AMSTERDAM**, New York, NY
Permanent Faculty, yoga and modern dance technique
- 1997-09** **NEW YORK UNIVERSITY**, Coles Center, New York, NY
Yoga, ballet, and modern technique classes
- 2000-05** **THE SANDRA CAMERON DANCE CENTER**, New York, NY
Creative movement and yoga classes
- 2000-01** **TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, NYU**, New York, NY
Adjunct faculty of Movement Studies
Graduate Level Yoga for actors
- 1998** **CALIFORNIA MOVEMENT AND DANCE WORKSHOP FOR DANCE EDUCATORS**, University of California, Irvine.

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- 1996-98 LYCEUM SUMMER IN THE ARTS**
Loudoun County, Virginia
Modern technique, improvisation, repertory, and composition
- 1996 MONCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY**
Montclair, New Jersey - Summer modern dance intensive

Awards and Scholarships

- 2006 LOWER MANHATTAN CULTURAL COUNCIL and
NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS**
Manhattan Community Arts Fund grant
YELLOW FOX FOUNDATION
Private Foundation, grant award
- 2005 PUFFIN FOUNDATION LTD.**
Private Foundation, grant award
- 2004 AMERICAN MUSIC CENTER**
Live Music for Dance Grant
- 2004 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN**
Academic Scholarship - Chancellor's Award
- 1991-93 FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY**
Academic scholarship
- 1992 AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL**
Duke University, NC
full scholarship from a nation wide search

Certifications

- 2001 ADVANCED YOGA CERTIFICATION, Anusara Principles**
Laughing Lotus Yoga Center, New York, NY
- 2000 THAI YOGA MASSAGE CERTIFICATION**
Two Souls Thai Massage/AI Turner, NYC
- 1999 ADVANCED TEACHER TRAINING, Asana Assists**
Kripalu Yoga Center, Lenox, MA
- 1998 VINYASA YOGA TEACHING CERTIFICATION**
The White Lotus Foundation Santa Barbara, CA

Additional Skills

Adobe Photoshop, iMovie, Final Cut Pro, iDVD, Website Maintenance
Dance Documentation, Grant Writing, Video Artist, Yoga Instructor, Triathlete

Work samples and references available upon request.