

# Emory Dance Program Faculty and Staff

www.dance.emory.edu 404.727.7266

## FULL-TIME FACULTY



**Lori Teague** (Associate Professor and Director of Dance) holds an MFA in choreography and performance from The Ohio State University and certification in Laban Movement Studies. From 1988-1991 she toured extensively with the University Dance Company and was also a company member of Zivili: Songs and Dances of the Western Balkans of Ohio and Randy James Dance Works of New York. In Atlanta she has performed with GardenHouse Dance, Full Radius Dance, Beacon Dance, and CORE Performance Company. Teague has collaborated with dancers to create choreographic works produced throughout the southeast as well as Scotland and Russia. She also trains artists to teach in under-served communities and works with Moving in the Spirit, a youth development program. She is an artist/activist and an environmentalist. At Emory, Teague teaches dance pedagogy, movement fundamentals, improvisation, composition, and all levels of modern technique.

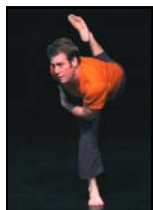


**Anna Leo** (Associate Professor) Before joining the Emory faculty in 1993 Anna Leo taught at Ohio Wesleyan University and Kenyon College. Prior to receiving her MFA degree at The Ohio State University, she lived in New York City for thirteen

years and danced with choreographers Sharon Kinney, Kenneth Rinker and Bebe Miller. Her choreography has been produced in New York City, and she has taught and choreographed at colleges and universities in the U.S., and in studios and theaters in Canada and Germany. She has been a National Endowment for the Arts Choreography fellowship recipient. Leo's teaching areas are modern and ballet technique, composition, dance history, and Iyengar yoga.



**Sally Radell** (Professor), holds an MA degree in choreography/Labanotation from The Ohio State University and an MFA degree in dance from Arizona State University. She came to Emory in 1987 to found a degree program in dance. The substantial growth of the program and success of this endeavor is one of her proudest professional accomplishments. Radell has been an active choreographer for over twenty-five years, has received numerous choreographic commissions and artist grants, and is a published dance critic. She is passionate about the integration of somatics and ways to promote healthy body image in the dance classroom. Radell's teaching areas are modern and ballet technique, improvisation, composition, labanotation, and somatics. She is a member of the *International Association of Dance Medicine & Science*.



**Gregory Catellier** (Senior Lecturer) is a dancer, choreographer, lighting designer, and teacher. He started dancing during his two years at Webster Universities' Conservatory of Theatre. He went on to receive his BA in Dance from Arizona State University. Upon graduation, he danced for choreographers and companies in Phoenix and New York. He received his MFA degree from The Ohio State University where he concentrated on dance lighting design and production. Catellier is active in the Atlanta dance scene as both a dancer and lighting designer. His choreography has been selected for the American



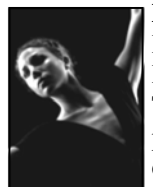
College Dance Festival gala concert, the Modern Atlanta Dance Festival, and the Handful Series in Athens, GA. At Emory, Catellier is resident lighting designer, and teaches modern dance technique, fitness for dancers and principles of design.

**George Staib** (Senior Lecturer) began his dance training at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in conjunction with the Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet. He received his Master of Fine Arts degree at Temple University where he served on the faculty upon graduating. Staib danced with Ann Vachon/Dance Conduit, Coriolis Dance Company, and Paula Kellinger and Dancers. Staib has been honored with awards and citations both nationally and internationally for his work.

## PART-TIME FACULTY



**Sheri Latham** (Instructor) began her studies with Southern Ballet under the direction of Pittman Corey. After being chosen as a finalist for the Bolshoi Ballet's children program during their North American tour, she continued her ballet training at the Atlanta Ballet under the direction of Robert Barnett. Latham left the Atlanta Ballet after ten years to guest perform with other companies and to study at Georgia State University, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in dance education. Latham began teaching all levels of ballet at Emory University in 1992. She has also created several ballets for the Emory Dance Company. Latham has been a guest teacher for Agnes Scott College and has taught at Georgia State University since 1988.



**Mara Mandradjief** (Instructor) trained at Pittsburgh Youth Ballet and summer programs such as the Chautauqua Institute, Miami City Ballet, and The School of American Ballet. She danced professionally with Bodiography Contemporary Ballet, Columbus Dance Theatre, Texture Contemporary Ballet, The Georgia Ballet, Dance Canvas, and City Gate Dance Theater. She received her BA and MA from the University of Pittsburgh, where she eventually choreographed and taught as a part-time faculty member. Recently, Mandradjief founded the Lume Foundation, a nonprofit that uses dance to improve the quality of life for patients and individuals at healthcare facilities.



**Tara Shepard Myers** (Instructor) earned her MFA in Dance from Florida State University and her BA in Dance from the University of Alabama. Myers' choreographic work has been produced by Sankofa Dance Theater, was selected for the Pan African Dance Festival, and has been performed in New York. Myers has served as artist in residence at Agnes Scott College, Coker College, and Spelman College, where her choreography was presented in main stage concerts. Myers' performance career includes performing with Danz Studie Tanka, Duende Dance Theater, IndieMove, Sankofa Dance Theater, and Staibdance. At Emory, Myers teaches modern and all levels of jazz. She is also faculty coordinator for the



**Kristin O'Neal** (Instructor) Prior to her arrival at Emory University, Kristin served on the dance faculty at the University of Florida (2008-14) where she specialized in teaching modern dance technique and contact improvisation. Having spent most of her career in South Florida where she danced with Gerri Houlihan and Dale Andree's Mary Street Dance Theatre, Kristin also served a seven-year tenure as the Dance Coordinator of Broward Community College in Fort Lauderdale, FL. She has received commissions/honorariums for her choreography and collaborations from producers like the Miami Light Project, Philadelphia Fringe Festival, Florida Dance Festival, MamLuft & Company (Cincinnati, OH), Emory University and Moving Current Dance Collective (Tampa, FL). Her work has also been shown in New York City venues WOW Café Theatre and the Joyce/Soho (A.W.A.R.D. Show 2008!). Kristin received her MFA in Dance from Hollins University/ADF and has enjoyed performing with Catellier Dance Projects since 2012

#### ROTATING FACULTY



**Julie Galle Baggenstoss** (Instructor, rotating years) is a flamenco dancer widely commissioned as a choreographer and lecturer. She tours her original shows for schools, and performs for Young Audiences Woodruff Arts Center. She has choreographed for Actor's Alliance, Georgia State University, Gainesville State College, Brenau University, and Digital Ball, and lectured at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts, Dance ATL, and the University of Georgia. Julie's style is influenced by her Seville teachers, and her work is guided by dancer/historian La Meira. Julie is the co-founder of jaleolé, a grass-roots organization that has shaped Atlanta's flamenco landscape for nearly ten years. Off stage, she produces flamenco events, such as theater productions and classes involving world-class Spanish flamenco artists.



**Theresa M. Howard** (Instructor, 2015-2016) is a native of New York where she received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance Theatre and Education. She holds a Master of Science degree from Hunter College in Dance-Movement Therapy, and is pursuing a doctoral degree. Howard has performed with many prominent dance ensembles for over 30 years, including: Chuck Davis African-American Dance Ensemble, Joan Miller and the Chamber Arts Players, Eleo Pomare, Rod Rogers Dance Company, Giwayen Mata, Barefoot Ballet, Manga African Dance Ensemble, and Ballethnic Dance Company. She is a part-time Assistant Professor of Dance at Kennesaw State University. Ms. Howard is founder of the "Edeliegba" H.J.C. Bowden Senior Dance Ensemble, a traveling dance troupe of senior citizens aged 60 years and older.



**Sasikala Penumarthi** (Instructor, rotating years), Vempati Chinna Satyam is the most renowned teacher and choreographer of Kuchipudi dance in modern times. From 1984-1990, Penumarthi served as a resident Artist/Performer/Teacher at the Kuchipudi Art Academy and traveled extensively in India, the U.S., Canada, Europe, and former Soviet Russia conducting workshops and lecture demonstrations. She founded the Academy of Kuchipudi Dance, in 1997. She received the Master Artist award from the Georgia Arts Council and the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts. Penumarthi is on the Georgia Council for the Arts and Young Audiences of Atlanta Artist Rosters. She teaches Kuchipudi dance for the

#### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

**Cynthia Church** (Costume Designer and Costume Shop Coordinator) has been designing costumes for marching band, color guard, and ice-skating for over 15 years. She holds administrative positions within the governing bodies of color guard competitive circuits both locally and internationally, and is also a choreographer. Church is also a designer with LEA Designs, has been commissioned for countless projects, and has a unique style that speaks to the essence of choreographic as well as theatrical work. She has costumed for the Emory Dance Company, Atlanta based dance companies, and also works with Theater Emory.

**Kendall Simpson**, (Music Operations Administrator) has composed original scores for several Atlanta-area theaters, including Theatre in the Square, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, Jewish Theatre of the South, Georgia Ensemble Theatre, Horizon Theater, and the Alliance Theater. Simpson's most recent work for dance, *Papillon*, was premiered by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra with Lee Harper and Dancers. Simpson has also scored several independent films and recent television credits include various pieces for Sesame Street. For the concert stage, Simpson has been commissioned to write works for piano and various chamber ensembles.

**Anne Walker** (Office Manager) holds a B.A. in studio art and art history from St. Olaf College. She has an interest in all the arts, including dance. Walker has worked at Emory since 1998, as Assistant Director of Development for the Rollins School of Public Health and Program Coordinator for the Center for the Study of Public Scholarship, before joining the Dance Program in 2005. Outside of her job at Emory, she designs and sells handcrafted sterling silver jewelry.

#### MUSIC STAFF

**David Decaminada**, originally from Columbus, Ohio, has been involved with ballet and modern dance as a piano accompanist in Atlanta since 1984. His associations include the Atlanta Ballet, Atlanta School of Ballet, Agnes Scott College, Carl Ratcliff Dancers, Georgia State University, and S.E.R.B.A. In Ohio he accompanied dance at The Ohio State University and the Ballet Metropolitan. His background as pianist includes Columbus Ohio Association for Performing Arts, Warner Cable, St. Thomas More, and Women's Glee Club. Decaminada accompanies classes in ballet and modern technique in the Emory Dance Program.

**Joanie Ferguson**, drums and percussion, is originally from Niles, Michigan. Joanie has an extensive background as a touring and recording musician with several different artists. She has shared the stage with notables Edwin McCain, Sister Hazel, Better Than Ezra, Spin Doctors, Atlanta Rhythm Section, Toto, Randy Bachman (BTO) and Blue Oyster Cult. Joanie accompanies classes in modern and jazz for both the Emory University Dance Program and Agnes Scott College.

**Yulia Rice**, originally from Moscow, Russia, was trained as a concert pianist. She competed in several international piano competitions after receiving her master's degree from the Russian Academy of Music in Moscow. She worked as an accompanist at the Moscow Conservatory. She also received a master's degree in piano performance and piano pedagogy from the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho. Since moving to Atlanta, she has been staff organist/pianist at Haygood Memorial United Methodist Church and an accompanist for the Atlanta Ballet, where she has also lectured on music history and theory. Rice accompanies ballet classes for the Emory Dance Program.