

# SEATTLE FESTIVAL OF DANCE IMPROVISATION 2018

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

SUNDAY JULY 29 REGISTRATION 6-7pm at Velocity // OPENING CIRCLE 7pm in Founders // OPENING JAM 8-10pm in Founders  
 SUNDAY AUG 5 CLOSING JAM 10am-1pm in Founders // CLOSING CIRCLE 1pm in Founders // POTLUCK 2:30pm at Cal Anderson

		MONDAY, JUL 30	TUESDAY, JUL 31	WEDNESDAY, AUG 1	THURSDAY, AUG 2	FRIDAY, AUG 3	SATURDAY, AUG 4
		7:30 - 8:30 am CONTEMPLATIVE DANCE PRACTICE (CDP) Kawasaki					7:30 - 8:30 am CDP Kawasaki
9:00-11:00 am	Erickson Founders Kawasaki Steward	<b>MORNING SOMATIC INTENSIVE (no drop-ins)</b> <b>EVA KARCZAG</b> <b>Somatic Tuning into Improvisation</b> A multi-faceted, linked sequence of classes: individual perspectives on the ways Somatic modalities effectively prepare us for improvising.					<b>MORNING SOMATIC INTENSIVE (no drop-ins)</b> <b>DEBRA WANNER</b> <b>Handles and Bridge</b> Improvisation following a subtle exploratory Feldenkrais Awareness Through Movement® Lesson that draws on novel constraints and variations to play evocatively and provocatively with our sense of self in action.
		<b>ALIA SWERSKY</b> <b>Ritual, Resistance &amp; Release</b> Explore movement rituals that sustain challenging physicality in the body. Repetition, duration, and rigor will lead towards altered states, which will inevitably culminate in some kind of decay or release.	<b>KAREN NELSON</b> <b>Space Mix</b> Sampling two unique systems—Material for the Spine (including CI) and Tuning Scores—we will dive deep and fast into the slow-time speedless body: inner sensations + composition = space mix	<b>ANNA DIXON + JOHN DIXON</b> <b>Ayurveda and Improvisation</b> Dive beneath familiar ayurvedic concepts to explore the three source forms of prana (life force,) unlocking their flow in our body with marma points, mantras and guided improvisational movement practices.		<b>ISHMAEL HOUSTON-JONES</b> <b>Doing It!</b> What is your first impulse? Can you trust it? What happens when the judge falls asleep? Can sight be a handicap? Can you know too much? This workshop is about Composition.	<b>K.J. HOLMES</b> <b>Horizons: Exploring arcs of transitions in solo and duet partnering</b> we will differentiate centers of gravity through exploring perceptions of horizons and spirals of the skeleton. Inversions, slow motion falls, rapid heart maneuvers and uncertainties.
		<b>SCOTT DAVIS</b> <b>By Hook or Crook</b> We'll explore how hooking parts of our bodies can add clarity and spice to our CI practice. This class will focus on leveraging skeletal structure in creative ways that keep your center close to your partner's and reveal new, playful pathways for movement.	<b>HIJACK</b> <b>Minute Collaboration</b> HIJACK methods for taking turns, cozying in, slamming up against, scores to betray what you think is set, what you think is improvised, what you think is yours.	<b>KATHERINE COOK</b> <b>Falling and Rising in Contact Improvisation</b> We'll be FALLING: down to the ground and RISING: back out of it. Falling maximizes a helpful kind of freedom in Contact Improvisation: the freedom to not know where we are or where we are going.		<b>ANNA MARTINE WHITEHEAD</b> <b>Surrounding Desire Workshop</b> Where in our practice does desire bump up against the quantum impulses all around us? Can space be said to want something of us? Or are we in a relationship with space beyond desire?	<b>SHEILA SKEMP</b> <b>Witnessing/ Inner States</b> Explore the action of seeing and nuances of being seen. As movers and as witnesses we will be present with "now", shed light on our stories, and investigate inner states.
		<b>MORNING OFFSITE INTENSIVE (no drop-ins)</b> <b>TAISHA PAGGETT</b> <b>The Poetics of Resistance</b> Here we employ improvisation and dancing in varying degrees of proximity as strategy for re-conceptualizing and embodying ideas of political resistance today. Self-identified persons of color are encouraged to attend.					<b>MORNING OFFSITE INTENSIVE (no drop-ins)</b> <b>TAISHA PAGGETT</b> <b>Resistance lives in the spine</b> Here we will stand inside a variety of movement practices and contact exercises to help us contemplate and re-conceptualize ideas of social justice, interdependence and collective action across our bodies.
		<b>MID-DAY INTENSIVES</b> M/T/F/S 11:30 am – 1:45 pm W 11:30 am – 5:15 pm (no drop-ins)			<b>DAY OF DANCE INNOVATORS IN PERFORMANCE + CONVERSATION</b>  <b>10:30AM / Conversation:</b> <i>A History of SFDI</i> Erickson Lobby  <b>12PM / Research in Performance I</b> <i>Surreptitious Preparations for an Impossible Total Act</i> Erickson Theater  <b>2PM / Research in Performance II</b> Founders Theater + Studios  <b>3PM / Talk:</b> <i>The Alchemy of Grand Union 1970-1976</i> with Wendy Perron Founders Theater  <b>5PM / Research in Performance III</b> Erickson Theater  <b>6:15PM / Conversation:</b> <i>The Mobilized Archive</i> Erickson Theater  <b>8pm / Performance</b> <b>CI (EMBODIED) INTERROGATES ITS OWN HISTORY</b> Founders  <b>10-11:30pm / Jam and Open Space</b> Founders + Kawasaki + Steward		<b>MID-DAY INTENSIVES</b> M/T/F/S 11:30 am – 1:45 pm W 11:30 am – 5:15 pm (no drop-ins)
3:15 - 5:15 pm	Erickson Founders Kawasaki	<b>Erickson: ISHMAEL HOUSTON-JONES</b> <b>Improvisation Strategies: Dancing Text/Texting Dance</b> This class is rooted in many different forms of improvisation and will offer students a foundation in diverse techniques of instinctive, intuitive, non-set dances.					
		<b>Founders: K.J. HOLMES</b> <b>Evolution and/of Contact Improvisation</b> This workshop will enter into contact improvisation as an evolutionary exploration using somatics, patterns, sensation, systems, analysis and composition yielding depth and highlighting transitions.					
		<b>SALLY DEAN</b> <b>Somatic Costumes into Improvisation</b> Wear, move and create in Somatic Costumes that generate specific body-mind experiences. 'Balloon Hats', 'Feather Fingers' & 'Heart Protectors' will heighten awareness, fuel creativity and imagination.	<b>MELECIO ESTRELLA</b> <b>We've Changed</b> Mystery and mechanics of state change in contact improvisation. Informed by rich imagery, anatomical reality checks and sensation training, this class will explore the occurrence of transformations within the contact improvisation duet.			<b>STEPHANIE SKURA</b> <b>Freedom + Rigor + Courage</b> Open Source Forms, expanded from Skinner Releasing. Explore physically specific scores to create fluid narratives + powerful presence. Sturdy respect for the subconscious, & deep connections amidst differences.	<b>NORAH ZUNIGA SHAW</b> <b>Resilience</b> Improvisation is powerfully precarious. Together we will respond to uncertain times by centering resilience in our practice and generating new scores to take back into our lives and communities.
<b>PAIGE BARNES</b> <b>Flooding Pulse</b> Inspired by acupuncture's pulse listening method, Paige Barnes will share a pulse responding dance practice formed while studying Chinese medicine at Bastyr University. Together we will create pulse dances.	<b>EVA KARCZAG</b> <b>Moving from Touch</b> Touch comes in many shapes and sizes. When we give touch, we receive touch in return – an exchange of information – reciprocity. In this class we will explore moving from touch.			<b>HIJACK</b> <b>Contact Improvisation a la HIJACK</b> HIJACK loves it from the source AND to make it up. We aim for contradiction, surprise, and cultivate a sense of humor about constant failure in the pursuit of perfect form.	<b>DIVERSE DIVINERS</b> <b>Diversity in Dancing: Start Where You Are</b> <i>THIS CLASS BEGINS AT 2:15</i> Calling all movers of diverse identity, ability + humanity to explore, share and enjoy their unique embodied connection and current expression.		
<b>CI FUNDAMENTALS INTENSIVE (no drop-ins)</b> <b>KAREN NELSON</b> <b>Essential Images of CI</b> Sensation as image, a basic source for improvisation, is grounded in direct evidence such as reflexive balance, and free interaction with unpredictable partners; a place to relocate presence while surviving the unknown—and skills, puzzles, rolls too.					<b>CI FUNDAMENTALS INTENSIVE (no drop-ins)</b> <b>LILA HURWITZ</b> <b>Feldenkrais® for Dancers</b> Neuromuscular re-education evokes changes in muscular tone, flexibility, coordination, attention, and the comfort and efficiency of movement. We'll explore common dancer issues, review anatomy and integrate it all with improvisation.		
		<b>7-11pm / Jam and Open Space</b> Founders + Kawasaki + Steward  <b>9-10pm / RELATIVES by Shannon Stewart</b> 10d 1312 E Union St	<b>7-11pm / Jam and Open Space</b> Founders + Kawasaki + Steward	<b>6-8:30pm / Conversation</b> <b>LIGHTNING TALKS + ROUND-TABLE</b> Founders  <b>8:30pm-12am / Jam and Open Space</b> Founders + Kawasaki + Steward	<b>7:30pm / Participant Performance</b> Founders  <b>9:30pm / Post-Show Talk</b> Steward  <b>9:30-11pm / Jam and Open Space</b> Founders + Kawasaki		
<b>REGISTRATION + INFO &gt;&gt; VELOCITYDANCECENTER.ORG/SFDI</b> VELOCITY DANCE CENTER // 1621 12TH AVE // 206.325.8773 ERICKSON THEATER // 1524 HARVARD AVE							

# faculty

**ALIA SWERSKY** has been a Seattle based movement artist since 1998. She is best known as an improviser, performer, ritual creator, mentor, teacher and healer. Alia is on faculty at Cornish College of the Arts where she has been teaching creative process, choreography and improvisation since 2005.

**DEBRA WANNER** is a dance artist and Feldenkrais® Practitioner. She has performed with numerous performing artists and improvisers. Debra has taught dance, improvisation, and experiential anatomy at colleges and dance institutions. Her work has received awards from National Endowment for the Arts and New York Foundation for the Arts.

**ANNA MARTINE WHITEHEAD** makes work by herself and with others addressing the body as archive. She teaches at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and with Prison + Neighborhood Arts Project, and she writes about race, gender, and performance for various publications. Her book TREASURE | My Black Rupture is available from Thread Makes Blanket. See more at [annamartine.com](http://annamartine.com)

**NORAH ZUNIGA SHAW** is an artist, performer and creative director best known for her award-winning digital projects for physical ideas including Synchronous Objects with William Forsythe. Focusing on creative approaches to livable futures, her most recent works address climate change through dance and computer music improvisation. She is director of dance and technology at the Ohio State University where she teaches improvisation and intermedia.

# intensive faculty

**K.J. HOLMES** is a Brooklyn NY based dance artist/actor/singer/teacher who has been practicing improvisation as process and performance for three decades. Major collaborators/influences include Julie Carr, Simone Forti, Karen Nelson, Lisa Nelson/Image Lab and Steve Paxton and the work of Bonnie Bainbridge Cohen and Andre Bernard.

**ISHMAEL HOUSTON-JONES** is a choreographer, author, performer, teacher, and curator whose improvised dance and text work has been performed in New York City, across the United States, in Europe, Canada, Australia and Latin America.

**KAREN NELSON**, dance explorer, teacher, maker, touring performer, author/contributor to Dancing with Dharma and Contact Quarterly began dancing CI in 1977. In Material for the Spine (Steve Paxton) and Tuning Scores (Lisa Nelson), she found her niche. Interrogating whiteness in her own embodiment, and larger community is ongoing.

**EVA KARZAG**, independent dance artist. Since the early 1970s performs, teaches, and advocates for explorative methods of dance making, utilizing somatic methods. Member of Trisha Brown Dance Company (1979-1985). Currently working in both the U.S. and Europe, she is in constant conversation with dance communities on both sides of the Atlantic.

**TAISHA PAGGETT'S** interdisciplinary works re-articulate and collide specific western choreographic practices with politics of daily life to interrogate fixed notions of black and queer embodiment, survival and desire. Such works include the collaborative project School for the Movement of the Technicolor People. paggett is an assistant professor at UC Riverside.

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SEE FULL LINE-UP OF CLASSES, SCHEDULE +  
EXTENDED BIOS ONLINE >>  
[VELOCITYDANCECENTER.ORG/FESTIVALS/SFDI-2018](http://VELOCITYDANCECENTER.ORG/FESTIVALS/SFDI-2018)

## >> SFDI 2018 PERFORMANCES + EVENTS

### CONVERSATION: LIGHTNING TALKS + ROUND-TABLE

WEDS AUG 1 / 6-8:30PM | Velocity Founders Theater

FREE + open to all

In this popular evening of performance, presentations, and community dialogue, SFDI intensive faculty share what's currently driving their research and practice.

### DANCE INNOVATORS IN PERFORMANCE

THURS AUG 2 / 10:30AM-6:30PM | Erickson Theater + Velocity Founders Theater

\$20 full day in advance / \$10 per performance at the door / FREE for SFDI Participants

We're dedicating an entire day of the festival for these leading dance innovators who gather annually at SFDI to share their work in performance. Various locations throughout the day.

### PERFORMANCE: CI (EMBODIED) INTERROGATES ITS OWN HISTORY

THURS AUG 2 / 8PM | Velocity Founders Theater

\$10 at the door / FREE for SFDI Participants

Journeying in time from 1972-2017, this demonstration/conversation explores the development of a post-modern dance form. Conceived and facilitated by Karen Nelson with local and inter/national CI practitioners.

### UNDERScore

FRI AUG 3 / 7:30-11PM | Velocity Founders Theater

FREE + open to all

A long-form open improvisation structure for practicing and examining dance improvisation. If you've never attended an Underscore, be sure to attend the talk with Katherine Cook in Velocity Founders Studio directly before the Underscore Friday AUG 3 / 5:30-6:30PM.

### PARTICIPANT PERFORMANCE

SAT AUG 4 / 7:30PM | Velocity Founders Theater

FREE + open to all

Performances by SFDI participants.

### NIGHTLY DANCE JAMS

Velocity Founders Theater

\$5 at the door / FREE for SFDI Participants

Open movement jams. All welcome.

+ MORE PERFORMANCES + EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED!

LEARN MORE ABOUT SFDI + REGISTER ONLINE >>  
[VELOCITYDANCECENTER.ORG](http://VELOCITYDANCECENTER.ORG)

## RESEARCH >> PERFORMANCES >> CI JAMS >> DISCUSSIONS

# sfdi

INTERNATIONAL SEATTLE FESTIVAL OF DANCE IMPROVISATION

JULY 29 - AUGUST 5 2018

“The leading convening of practitioners in dance improvisation in the United States.”

—JOHN JASPERSE, FACULTY

+ Incredible faculty / See full line-up of classes, schedule + bios online

ISHMAEL HOUSTON JONES / K.J. HOLMES  
KAREN NELSON / EVA KARZAG / TAISHA PAGGETT

INTENSIVES WITH

VELOCITY  
DANCECENTER  
.ORG