

Constance W. Harris

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EDUCATION

University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO

MFA in **Dance Performance and Choreography**, May 2021

Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA

Bachelor of Arts, Major: **Anthropology** May 2013

CHOREOGRAPHY AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, August 2018-Present

- **Guest Artist/Choreographer**
 - Commissioned guest artist for yearly *The Current* faculty and guest artist production for 2022, 2023 and 2024.
- **Lecturer**
 - Instructor for Transnational/Afrofusion dance classes for Fall 2021, Spring 2022 and Spring 2023
- **Graduate Part Time Instructor and Teaching Assistant**
 - Instructor for introductory level Transnational Fusion dance classes (Fall 2018, Spring 2020, and Fall 2021). Teaching assistant for Dance and Pop Culture (Spring 2019) and Dancing Histories (Fall 2018) lecture courses

Rennie Harris University Winter Cypher, Boulder, CO, Winter 2022, 2023 and 2024

- Featured instructor for Rennie Harris's yearly street dance festival.

Jamballah, Portland, OR, July 2023

- Workshop teacher and performer for fusion dance festival.

Migrations, Austin, TX, January 2022 and 2023

- Co-headliner, workshop teacher and performer for fusion dance festival.

Summer Mountain Dance Project, Denver, CO, Summer 2022 and 2023

- Commissioned choreographer for Denver based free summer outdoor dance performance series.

Dancing Diasporas, Boulder, CO, July 2021-August 2021

- Instructor for free outdoor summer dance series featuring Afrofusion, Bollywood Fusion, and Middle Eastern dance classes.

Raqs Online, Online Dance Instruction Platform, January 2021-Present

- Offer pre-recorded and livestream classes for Afrofusion and twerk technique and choreography.

Mi Chantli (Formerly Block 1750), Boulder, CO, November 2020-2022

- Teach weekly Beginner/Intermediate Afrofusion classes which explores movement styles grounded in Africanist aesthetics, including but not limited to, contemporary African social dances from Ghana, Nigeria, and South Africa, Hip-hop, and Rhythm House

Trenton Music Makers Summer Camp, Trenton, NJ, July 2017

- Taught Hip-Hop classes to approximately 25 students between the ages of 8-12.

Trenton Area YMCA, Trenton, NJ, September 2013-July 2018

- Taught and choreographed Hip-Hop, Ballet, and Modern dances for students ages 9 to adults.
- Founder and organizer of *Movement Leaders*, a student choreography competition that awards a promising student with a full year of tuition for one dance class.

SELECTED WORKS

...or so you thought, commissioned group piece with 14 dancers, 10 minutes, The Current, University of Colorado Boulder, April 2023

Tenets, co-choreographer, duet, 3 minutes, Denver, CO 2022

- Sans Souci Film Festival, dance film, Boulder, CO, September 2023
- Freeform Festival, Boulder, CO, October 2022
- CRAFT Festival, Boulder, CO, September 2022

Journey, commissioned group piece with 10 dancers, 10 minutes, The Current, University of Colorado Boulder, April 2022

(Un) Be. Coming, solo, MFA thesis dance film, 20 minutes, April 2021

Mildred, solo, dance film, 5 minutes, October 2021

W A N T, trio, dance film, 6 minutes, July 2020

Sickness_When you get that fuck it in your system, group piece with 4 dancers, University of Colorado, Boulder, Boulder, CO, February 2020

Dry Face (Work in Progress), solo, Close Look Performance Series, Floor Space, Boulder, CO, December 2019

Samba Cantina, solo, Psychedelic Burlesque Jungle, Roxy Denver, Denver, CO, November 2019

On the Slide (Dance Film), choreographer/dance director, Philadelphia, PA, February 2018

Examined Lives, co-choreographer, duet with Maleek Colvin

- ETC. Performance Series, Philadelphia, PA, November 2017
- A Choreographer's Vision: Intimate Revelations, Dixon Place, New York, NY, June 2017

Climb to Me, co-choreographer, duet and trio with Maleek Colvin and Brianna Scott

- ETC. Performance Series, Philadelphia, PA, May 2017

F.I.N.E., co-choreographer, duet with Maleek Colvin

- Koresh Artist Showcase Series, Philadelphia, PA, January 2017
- ETC. Performance Series, Philadelphia, PA, January 2017

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Nightlife Entertainer/Go-go Dancer/Belly Dancer, Various Locations, 2016-Present

- Resident performer for Philadelphia-based Whisky and Go-go bar, The Trestle Inn, and Denver's monthly all vinyl soul party, Mile High Soul Club. Featured performer at Ivan Kane's Kiss Kiss (Atlantic City), Premier Nightclub (Atlantic City), World Town Sound System (Philadelphia) Scatta Afrobeats (Denver), HYPE! (Denver), Owls Club (Tucson) and Global Dance Festival (Denver).

Cultural Runway Series, Denver, CO, June 2022

- Featured dancer

A Onda, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, October 2019

- Featured performer in Kristen Holleyman's MFA thesis concert presentation.

Re-membling, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, October 2019

- Featured performer and soloist in Kshitija Saturdekar and Taylor Madgett's MFA thesis concert presentation.

Post Verbal Social Network, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, September 2019

- Featured performer in Michelle Ellsworth *Unwrapped* presentation.

Box, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, April 2019

- Featured performer in Larry Southall's *The Current* presentation.

Rin Ajna's Myriad Project, Various Locations, August 2016-Present

- Member of emerging fusion dance choreographer and performer for experimental fusion company.

Be. Coming Movement, Trenton, NJ April 2016-Present

- Co-director and choreographer for an emerging contemporary dance company. Perform primarily at showcases and performance series in Philadelphia. Some of which include the Koresh Artist Showcase, ETC Performance Series, the Dance Diversity Tour, and A Choreographer's Vision: Intimate Revelations Featuring April Rose.

Jeff Mach's Wicked Winter Renaissance Faire, Princeton, NJ, February 2015

- Solo 45 minute set featuring a fusion Middle Eastern, Hip-Hop, and contemporary West African dance styles.

Belly Dance Evolution, Various Locations, September 2014 and January 2015

- Chosen by renowned Artistic Director of Belly Dance Evolution, Jillina Carlano, to dance as a chorus member for her production of *Alice in Wonderland*.
- Participated in two tours with noted performances at the Rialto (Atlanta, GA), The Birchmere (Alexandria, VA), and The Regent Theatre (Arlington, MA).

Drum and Dance Learning Center (DDLDC), Lawrenceville, NJ, December 2013-November 2014

- Performed as a Belly Dancer for DDLDC's student ensemble and resident company, Groove Merchant Drum and Dance Ensemble, in a number of studio and local performances throughout Central New Jersey under the direction of Kim Leary and Dave Meritt.

Anwar, Carlisle, PA, September 2010-May 2013

- Selected to be a member of Dickinson College's first and only Belly Dance troupe under the direction of Frances Herman.

- Performed at a variety of Dickinson College, the local Carlisle community, and nearby colleges' festivals and cultural events.

Hypnotic, Carlisle, PA, March 2010-January 2013

- Performed and choreographed for Dickinson College's exclusive Hip-Hop team for performances at competitions, athletic events, community festivals, and nearby colleges.

Dance and Theatre Group, Carlisle, PA, September 2009-December 2012

- Student performer casted in 11 different student and professionally choreographed Modern dance pieces. Performed in 7 bi-annual productions held at Dickinson College's Mathers Theatre. Performed works by Paula Aarons, Dawn Springer, and Helen Simoneau.

RESEARCH

(Un) Be. Coming (2021)

- MFA thesis paper examining work and the processes behind creating my project (Un) Be. coming, a multi video exploration of how one defines freedom creatively through vulnerability, agency, and play.

“The More You Give, the More You Receive”: Identity Construction and Community Building in Chicago Style Steppin’ (2013)

- Received funding from Dickinson College's Community Studies Center Grant to complete research for my Anthropology Senior Colloquium project on the Chicago Style Steppin' dance communities.

RELEVANT WORK/INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Mi Chantli (Formerly Block 1750), Communications Coordinator, January 2021 - September 2021, Boulder, CO

- Responsible for all studio communications: email, social media and phone. Coordinate communication around studio classes/programming and create & implement quarterly communications plans.

University of Colorado Boulder Theater and Dance Department, Dance Events Coordinator, Spring 2019 - Present, Boulder, CO

- Support, manage, and coordinate dance events (season productions, auditions, guest artists including Roser, receptions and ceremonies, end of year showings) in the Department of Theatre & Dance.

Fred Astaire Dance Studio of Princeton, Office Manager and Dancer, January 2015-April 2016, Princeton, NJ

- Maintained lesson schedule and student enrollments/payments. Assisted with event planning and social media upkeep.
- Competed in novice level American Rhythm categories at local competitions in NJ. Assisted with youth and adult beginner level ballroom classes.

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Archives/Engagement Intern, Summer 2013, Becket, Massachusetts

- Facilitated public access to the Pillow's extensive collection of videos, photographs, books and other historical materials.
- Created database records for videos of dance performances using FileMaker.
- Collected and compiled necessary sources for various dance scholars' research projects.

Movement Research, Intern, Summer 2012, New York, New York

- Interned at a non-profit dedicated to providing support to independent dance artists and small companies.
- Proofread programs for events and delivered invitations and brochures to regional dance organizations.
- Provided office support through data entry, mailings, and organizing for Operations, Marketing/Media, and the Archives sectors of this organization.