

OCTOBER 15-18, 2020 | VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

# DANCING RESILIENCE

Dance Studies and Activism in a Global Age

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dance  
studies  
association



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## CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The Dance Studies Association (DSA) holds its fourth annual conference, “Dancing Resilience: Dance Studies and Activism in a Global Age,” across Vancouver, British Columbia from October 15-18, 2020. Performances, break-out sessions, and receptions will be held at Simon Fraser University’s Goldcorp Centre for the Arts and the Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel. After a record number of attendees at the 2019 DSA conference, we expect more than 500 participants from around the world.

Our programming includes plenary panels, lecture demonstrations, working groups, and the launch of a five-year “Dance Studies as an International Field” initiative led by senior scholar Susan Leigh Foster. Foster will curate two public conversations between local, Indigenous dance artists and scholars, and those from across the globe – live streamed as a part of the project’s mission for increased access. We will kick off our conference on Thursday October 15th with a performance of *Matriarchs Uprising*, an evening of Indigenous Dance featuring performances that highlight the choreographic voices of Indigenous women, offering stories of transformation through dance creation, production, and conversation.

At this conference in Vancouver, the first DSA gathering in Canada, presenters will explore dance and activism in localized and transcultural settings, and share strategies for productive change on the stage, street, screen and within the academy. Vancouver has long been a site of occupation, exchange, defiance and resilience. From time immemorial, it has been a location of trade and traversal across coastal Indigenous communities of the Pacific and, in more recent centuries, a place where diverse cultures from across the world have encountered each other and interacted through colonial pathways and settlement. In the same way that Vancouver serves as a powerful and complex example of both vexing histories and determined hope, participants will demonstrate how dance intervenes in a range of issues, including race relations, gender-related rights, and land disputes. We will share the frameworks of dancing and dance scholarship that provide space for optimism, activism, and social movement

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# DANCE STUDIES ASSOCIATION (DSA) OVERVIEW

The Dance Studies Association (DSA) is an international organization of dance scholars, educators, and artists that aims to strengthen the visibility of dance as embodied practice, creative endeavor and intellectual discipline. Formed in 2017 as the merged entity of the Congress on Research in Dance (CORD) and the Society of Dance History Scholars (SDHS), DSA is both grounded in and extends the work of those two organizations. Bringing the field of dance studies into the twenty-first century, DSA showcases the tremendous growth of research and publication over the past fifty years. Annual conferences draw together hundreds of scholars and artists to share research, award path-breaking scholarship, and discuss pressing issues in a global and diverse field.

In the past year DSA has enjoyed tremendous growth in membership and conference attendance, as well as a strengthened administrative structure. New members are coming to dance studies from adjacent fields – anthropology, musicology, sociology, performance studies, area studies, and more. Additionally, as these fields accept graduate students interested in dance, our student membership continues to gain strength in numbers. Executive Director Dr. Lizzie Leopold joined DSA in 2019 to facilitate larger conference gatherings, increased global access to our resources, and ensure organizational longevity.

As a constituent member of the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), DSA advances the field of dance studies through research, publication, performance, and outreach to audiences across the arts, humanities, and social sciences.

## **The Dance Studies Association**

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# THE DANCE PROGRAM AT SFU SCHOOL FOR THE CONTEMPORARY ARTS

Dance has been part of the cultural and intellectual life of Simon Fraser University since the institution's founding in 1965. In SFU's first decade, non-credit workshops in dance were offered through the Centre for Communication and the Arts. Most were led by Iris Garland, then a faculty member in SFU's Physical Development Centre. The CCA's ambitious public event series also brought leading national and international artists to SFU's Burnaby Mountain campus, including Merce Cunningham, who collaborated with SFU researchers on the development and application of the choreographic software program LifeForms, now DanceForms.

In 1975, the Centre for the Arts was formed as an academic unit overseeing credit courses in dance, film, music, theatre, visual art, and art history. Garland, together with Santa Aloï, developed the dance program, the first BFA degree at SFU to offer a major. Grant Strate, former National Ballet of Canada principal dancer and the founding chair of York University's dance program, became Director of the Centre in 1980. Strate established a successful Choreographic Summer Institute and, with Aloï, formed the Off Centre Dance Company, a performance ensemble made up of senior dance students that toured the province of British Columbia giving lecture demonstrations to elementary and high school students.

The School for the Contemporary Arts (so renamed in 1989) moved into its new downtown Vancouver complex, the Goldcorp Centre for the Arts, in 2009. Here, amid a thriving Vancouver dance scene that has been actively shaped by SFU alums since 1981, the SCA Dance Program provides a unique opportunity to study, create, and perform dance within a collaborative, interdisciplinary department.

Mentored by faculty who are award-winning choreographers, teachers, and researchers, undergraduate students also collaborate with local, national, and international guest artists. MFA, MA, and PhD students conduct practice-based and scholarly research that explores the intersections between dance and cognate fields in the fine and

performing arts, as well as anthropology, history, dance and technology, gender studies, and media studies.

Located on unceded Coast Salish territories in a diverse neighbourhood that also hosts growing communities from Asia, Africa, Europe, the Middle East and Latin America, the SCA Dance Program is part of a public-facing art school that understands contemporary aesthetic practices and theories to be entangled with the place-based histories that give rise to them. As DSA 2020 participants gather to explore the relationship between dance and activism, and as you move between events at the conference hotel and the Goldcorp Centre, we thus invite you to think about the different pathways of resilient assembly you are retracing.

[www.sfu.ca/sca](http://www.sfu.ca/sca)

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# ALL EXHIBIT REQUESTS, EVENT SPONSORSHIPS, AND DIGITAL ADVERTISING ARE DUE AUGUST 3, 2020

RESERVATION & PAYMENT FORM CAN BE FOUND AT

[WWW.DANCESTUDIESASSOCIATION.ORG/CONFERENCES/DANCING-RESILIENCE](http://WWW.DANCESTUDIESASSOCIATION.ORG/CONFERENCES/DANCING-RESILIENCE)

## PUBLISHERS' EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITIES

With an estimated 500 dance scholars and educators in attendance, DSA's 2020 conference offers publishers an excellent venue to promote dance and performance titles.

### DISPLAY BY TABLE – PUBLISHER'S EXHIBIT

Make an impact as an exhibitor. This opportunity gives you the ability to network, advertise, promote and sell your books, products, and services to a captive audience which is highly invested in the study of dance. Each six-foot display table includes two chairs, wastebasket, and name badges for booth attendants. Display tables must be attended for the duration of the Exhibit.

- First table: **\$375.00**
- Additional tables: **\$175.00 each**

### DISPLAY BY PUBLICATION

This is the perfect opportunity to promote one of your books to dance scholars and educators from around the world!

Display books or materials on the DSA Scholars Tables.

- Each display item is **\$40.00** (You may display a book and an order form for the **\$40** price; additional display items are subject to the **\$40** fee.)

## SPONSORSHIPS & DIGITAL ADVERTISING

In 2019, DSA successfully launched our mobile conference app. As we continue to green our conferences, we move away from printed programs and advertising and towards more adaptive, interactive, and environmentally-conscious modes of communication. To that end, support DSA and share your message with our attendees through sponsorship opportunities and/or digital advertising.

During three plenary sessions, two internationalization conversations, an opening reception, and our annual awards event, all 500+ attendees gather together at one time. By sponsoring one of these events you will have the opportunity to be seen by all. You will receive:

- signage at the event
- public announcement of your sponsorship via eblast, website, and social media
- sponsor profile in the mobile app used by all attendees

### SPONSOR AN EVENT

**Plenary Presentation (three opportunities for singular opportunity) ~ \$500**

DSA will host three plenary panel presentations over the course of our four-day conference, curating a group of dance scholars and practitioners from across the globe to address conference themes of dance studies and activism.

**Plenary I: Putting Theory Into Practice | Thursday, October 15 | 3:30 – 5:00 PM**

**Plenary II: Dance and Geopolitics | Friday, October 16 | 4:30 – 6:00 PM**

**Plenary III: Moving Forward – Current Need /Future Strategies | Sunday, October 18 | 12:30 – 2:00 PM**



### **Opening Reception (singular opportunity) ~ \$1000**

The Opening Reception will take place on Thursday evening, October 15th, at the Pinnacle Harbourfront Hotel. Over cocktails and appetizers, our members and conference attendees will gather and mingle. As the singular sponsor for this reception, you will help us kick off our conference before the evening's performance.

### **Internationalization Project Conversations ~ \$300**

In Vancouver, DSA will launch a five-year "Dance Studies as an International Field" project curated by senior scholar Dr. Susan Leigh Foster. In order to discuss how the field has emerged in different global contexts, this conference will host two public conversations between local, indigenous dance artists and scholars, and those from across the globe. We look forward to live-streaming these conversations as a part of the project's stated mission for increased access, provoking reflecting and discussion around the relationship of locality to the various frameworks being deployed to study dance.

### **Membership & Awards Dinner: Table Sponsor ~ \$75/table**

Our annual Membership and Awards Dinner is an opportunity to share Association updates and honor publication awardees in the field. Each sponsor will receive signage on an individual table, as well as public thanks from the podium.

## **DIGITAL ADVERTISING**

Market and endorse your books, products, events, and services by placing an ad in the conference app or in a push notification – as a part of our targeted communication with conference attendees. The DSA app replaces our printed programs as a part of a greener conference. The branded mobile app launched at our 2019 conference with a nearly 100% adoption rate. It is a dynamic platform for the conference schedule, book exhibitors, abstracts, bios, social connections, and more.

### **DSA Mobile App, Banner Ad**

Banner advertisements scroll on the homepage of our conference app and are hyperlinked to a URL of your choosing. (Size: 950x400 pixels)

- **\$100** / month (August placement)
- **\$200** / month (September placement)
- **\$300** / month (October placement)
- **\$500** for banner ad to run from app launch through conference

### **Sponsored Push Notifications**

Custom text push-notification will go out to all app-users, hyperlinked to a URL of your choosing. Promote your book exhibit or event, in real-time. You chose the date. In order to respect our app-users' time and space, these sponsored notifications are limited, so reserve early.

- **\$100** / notification (August or September)
- **\$150** / notification (October, excluding conference days)
- **\$200** / notification (October 15-18)

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[WWW.DANCESTUDIESASSOCIATION.ORG/CONFERENCES/DANCING-RESILIENCE](http://WWW.DANCESTUDIESASSOCIATION.ORG/CONFERENCES/DANCING-RESILIENCE)**

**CONTACT LIZZIE LEOPOLD WITH QUESTIONS AT [CONFERENCE@DANCESTUDIESASSOCIATION.ORG](mailto:CONFERENCE@DANCESTUDIESASSOCIATION.ORG)**



Photo Credit: Dale Northey/SFU

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