

Joan Gavaler

Professor of Dance • William & Mary

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CURRENT POSITIONS

William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA Professor (Theatre & Dance)	August 1994-present
Aura CuriAtlas Physical Theatre Producing Artistic Director	October 2013-present

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Alexander Foundation , Philadelphia, PA F.M. Alexander Technique Teacher Certification	1998
The Ohio State University , Columbus, OH Master of Arts (Dance Choreography and Performance)	1987
The College of William & Mary , Williamsburg, VA Bachelor of Arts (Psychology)	1985

CREATIVE RESEARCH

Professional Companies:

- Aura CuriAtlas Physical Theatre (Co-Artistic Director: 2013-2022, Artistic Director: 2022-present): Devisor, director, choreographer, performer, collaborator, workshop leader, 53 events (East Coast, Midwest, Southern U.S., Cyprus)
- Gravity Optional (2002-2009): Co-Artistic Director, choreographer, performer, 12 events (Virginia, D.C.)
- Gavaler Danceworks (1990-1996, 2000-2012): Artistic Director, choreographer, performer, 28 events (Ohio, Virginia, NYC)
- The Moving Arts Company (1987-1990): Artistic Steering Committee, choreographer, performer, collaborator, 21 events (Ohio)

Evening length shows: *The Zombie Life: A Seminar for Humans Seeking Conversion* (2021), *The Fool and The World* (2019), *A Life With No Limits* (2017), *DREAM LOGIC* (2014), *A Slightly Twisted Evening of Misplaced Love* (1988)

Live works: *The We Inside* (2024), *Within Time* (2023), *3 Monkeys* (2018), *Stack and Re-Stack* (2016), *Special Delivery* (2016), *Hatch* (2015), *Couples' Therapy* (2015), *Bucket of Youth* (2015, advised), *Dust* (2014), *Krayola* (2014), *Etude* (2014), *Seats* (2014), *Infectious Mononucleosis* (2014, advised), *Strings* (2014, advised), *Pardon* (2014, advised), *Newton's Cradle* (2013), *Tarot Meditations* (2012), *The Abracadabra of Meaning* (2012), *Pinballs, Magnets, and Mercury Rising* (2009), *Symbol* (2009), *Rapid Eye Movements* (2009), *Loon* (2008), *Dyslexia* (2007), *Sextet #1 With Rests* (2006), *Translations* (2006), *Grace* (2006), *Nostalgia (Starry Night Again)* (2004), *Connections* (2004), *Virus Warning 42* (2004), *OceanSong* (2004), *captured ... seeking* (2002), *Even If You Did* (2000), *The Voice of Her Ancestors* (1996), *Hands* (1995), *Do You Know/Do You Understand* (1995), *Who Do You Think You Are?* (1995), *The Waiting Room* (1994), *Seeing Voices: A Poetry Reading* (1994), *Fiddle Dances* (1993), *Collage in 4 Pieces* (1993), *Absent Friends* (1993), *Storytelling Piece* (1991), *To-Sing-Practice-Songs* (1991), *You Cannot Hear Me* (1990), *Bop* (1990), *Emergence* (1990), *Collision Course* (1989), *Barrier* (1988), *Exchanges* (1988), *Coming Back Around* (1988), *Twisted* (1987), *Rousseau's Dinner Party* (1987)

Digital works: *asathoughtfallsthroughthegapsoftranslation* (2023), S. L. Feemster's *ConFront(ed)* (2021)

Direction/Movement Direction/Theatre Choreography: Firehouse Theatre (2016, 2020, 2021, 2022), Virginia Theatre Machine (2016), Panglossian Productions (2014), Virginia Shakespeare Festival (2013), Jamestown Commemoration (2007)

Academic Productions:

- Professional collaborations and solos: *ConFront(ed): Pause. Fast Forward. Slow Down. Go Back.* (2021), *Baba Yaga* (2018), *Captain Equilibrium* (2015), *The Soldier's Tale Retold* (2013), *The Algae Epic* (2012), *The Molting* (2012), *Nine Meditations on the Major Arcana* (2011), *Peripheral Vision* (2011), *Inbox* (2009), *StickStackStuck* (2009), *Re-Membering: The World is Made Daily in Our Hearts* (2007)
- Orchesis dance company: *Journeys* (2023), *Shifting Polarities* (2022), *BreakDown!* (2019), *Phoenix Cycles* (2018), *Roshambo* (2016), *Falling and Flying* (2015), *What Is* (2010), *Undercurrent* (2009), *String of Pearls* (2008), *Inte-dis-gration* (2006), *Frolics* (2003), *Juxta* (1998), *UMREM* (1996), *Only Here This Moment* (1995)
- Physical Theatre/Devised Work: & *Mary* (2019), *Who Says Words?* (2012), *Habits of Thought* (2010)
- W&M Theatre Movement Direction/Choreography/Movement Consulting: *Proof* (2023), *Metamorphoses* (2018), *Our Lady of Kibeho* (2017), *Dancing at Lughnasa* (2013), *Cabaret* (2011), *Eurydice* (2010), *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (2009), *Mother Courage and Her Children* (2008), *The Scams of Scapin* (2008), *Amadeus* (2006), *STOP KISS* (2006), *Madwoman of Chailot* (2005), *In the Garden of Live Flowers* (2004), *A Little Night Music* (2002), *The Tapestry* (2000), *Love's Fire* (2000), *Hedda Gabler* (1999), *Angels in America* (1998), *The Cherry Orchard* (1996), *Helene* (1995)

RESEARCH GRANTS

Virginia Commission for the Arts Touring Roster (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023), Virginia Commission for the Arts, Project Grant (2015, 2016, 2018), Williamsburg Area Arts Commission Project Grant (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023), York County Arts Commission Project Grant (2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2023), Junior Woman's Club of Williamsburg Project Grant (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020), Community Arts Fund Operating Support (1994), Greater Columbus Arts Council Project Grant (1991, 1992, 1993), Ohio Joint Program in the Arts and Humanities Project Grant (1991), Ohio Joint Program in the Arts and Humanities Technical Assistance Grant (1990)

PERFORMANCE INVITATIONS

Human Landscape (2024), Washington & Lee (2024), Citizens for the Arts (2024), Ampersand Arts Festival (2023), Chesapeake Academy (2023), Sweet Briar College (2022), Steppenwolf Theatre (2020), Multi Arts Exchange (Cyprus, 2019), PHYSICAL Festival (2019), Millennium Stages, Kennedy Center (2019), Arts Enter (2019), Virginia Wesleyan Concert Series (2019), commissioned work for the International Congress of the F.M. Alexander Technique (Chicago, 2018), Henrico County (2018), Spring Leaf Schools (2018), Rappahannock Foundation for the Arts (2018), Atlas INTERSECTIONS Festival (2016, 2017), Yes! Dance Invitational (2009, 2017), Riverviews Artspace (2017), Pasquerilla Center for the Performing Arts (2017), Firehouse Theatre (2017, 2021), Richmond Dance Festival (2016), World Oceans New Year New York (2015), CrisisArt Festival (Italy, 2012), Symposium on Pilgrimage Studies (2012), American Dance Guild Performance Festival (2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2011, 2012), Dance Place (2002, 2004, 2006, 2009), International Dance Festival – NYC (2005), AAHPERD Convention (2005 - Named Distinguished Guest Artist, 2006, 2009), National Dance Association Gala (2005), ODU Choreographers' Showcase (2004, 2006), A Taste of the Arts (2004), Kilmarnock Center for the Arts (2003), Dance Place New Releases (2000), First Night of Williamsburg (1996), commissioned choreography for the movie *Renegade: The Story of the Shawnee Remnant Band* (1996), artspace (1995), Canton Ballet Emerging Choreographers (1990), Davis Center for the Performing Arts (1990), Roth/Ressler Theatre (1989, 1990), OhioDance AIDS Benefit Concert (1988), *3 Planes: Laser Horizon*, a Jonathan Gilbert Installation (1989), *Through My Eye*, A Corbett Reynolds Installation (1987, 1989)

RESIDENCIES

Any Given Child Shenandoah Valley (2019, 2023), Institute for Dance, Williamsburg (2018), Brickell Academy, Virginia Beach (2018), Virginia Hooper Academy, Hope Hull, AL (2015); Dogtown Young Dancer Workshop, Richmond, VA (2014); Virginia Shakespeare Festival, Williamsburg, VA (2009-2014); Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China (2013); York County School of the Arts, Williamsburg, VA (2004); Davis Discovery Center, Columbus, OH (1994)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, INVITED WORKSHOPS

Digital Research in the Humanities and Arts (Italy, 2023), Fiction Machines IV research symposium (UK, 2023), Caio Social Club (2023), Camberwell College of Art (UK, Zoom, 2023), Sweet Briar College (2022), Firehouse Theatre (2021), American College Dance Association (2002, 2004, 2007, 2011, 2012, 2020), Williamsburg Summer Youth Achievement Program (2019, 2020), European University of Cyprus (2019), Nicosia Municipal Theatre (Cyprus, 2019), Cyprus Future Dance Centre School (Cyprus, 2019), PHYSICAL Festival (2019), Chicago AcroFest (2017, 2018, 2019), International Congresses of the F. M. Alexander Technique (Lugano, 2008, 2011, Chicago, 2018), Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center (2018), Torggler Summer Vocal Institute (2017), Williamsburg Contemplative Movement Collective (2017), Woodside High School (2017), Richmond Dance Festival (2016), Flute Frenzy (2007, 2016), Warhill High School (2016), Virginia Symposium (2015), Taking Shape Fitness (2015), TPMG Orthopedics (2014), Dogtown Dance Theatre (2013), CrisisArt Festival (Italy, 2012), Toscana Summer Dance Intensive (Italy, 2012), Virginia Thespians (2010), W&M Summer Dance Intensives (2007, 2008, 2009, 2011), AAHPERD (2005, 2006), Old Dominion University (2004, 2006), Newport News Summer Creative Writing Program (2006), Dickinson College (2004), Iona College (2004), James Madison University (2004), Muhlenberg College (2004), Beach Blanket Beledi (2004), Middle Eastern Dance Conference (1997, 2004), Ohio State University Somatics Conference (1998-2001), Longwood University (2001), Operation Hope (1999), James River Elementary School (1997, 1998), Caravan East (1995), Alliance for Dance and Movement Arts (1992)

SERVICE

Professional: Alexander Technique Liberation Project, program reviewer, tenure/promotion reviewer, performance adjudicator, workshop organizer, showcase organizer, American Dance Guild, Alexander Technique International, Steve's House Dance Collective, Community Campaign Committee, OhioDance Festival Planning, Alliance for Dance and Movement Arts

Academic: Fellow, Studio for Teaching & Learning Innovation (2021-22), Co-Director of Dance (2015-present), Department Chair (2009-2014), Head of Dance (2000-2009), Black Studies Advisory Board (1999-2014), campus presentations, advising, guest artist and student travel funding, May Seminars, university committees (Arts Quarter, Retention Promotion & Tenure, Faculty Affairs, International Advisory, Building, Chairs & Program Directors, Assessment, PBK Faculty Awards, PBK Nominations, Educational Policy, Search), department committees (Search, Personnel, Production, Program Review, Assessment, Curriculum, Website, Strategic Plan)