

MESHI CHAVEZ — Curriculum Vitae

Meshi Chavez has spent over two decades teaching, performing, and creating movement both nationally and internationally. His work is rooted in the belief that creativity is our birthright, and that through training the mind, body, and spirit, we can access and cultivate this creative force. He teaches Butoh, choreography, and Movement as Meditation, bringing somatic awareness, curiosity, and play into every class. Chavez works in colleges, festivals, retreats, and online platforms, and collaborates internationally, including ongoing work with author and theologian Matthew Fox.

EDUCATION

MFA, Dance — University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA, Fall 2023

Massage Therapy — East West College of the Healing Arts, Portland, OR, 1999

20 Years of Butoh & Performance Training — See Addendum

ACADEMIC TEACHING

Middlebury College

- Advanced Choreography — Fall 2021; Spring 2023
- Introduction to Dance — Winter 2022; Spring 2022; Fall 2022; Winter 2025
- Anatomy & Kinesiology — Spring 2022; Spring 2023; Spring 2025; Fall 2025
- Technique Workshop — Spring 2022; Spring 2023
- Independent Study (Thesis Advisor) — Spring 2022; Spring 2023, Spring 2025
- Dance Company Middlebury — Fall & Winter 2022–2023
- Introduction to Butoh — Winter 2024; Fall 2024
- Choreography & Performance — Spring 2025

WORKSHOPS, RETREATS & INTERNATIONAL TEACHING

Momentum Conscious Movement, Portland, OR — 1999–Present

- Creator and facilitator of adult movement education programs, including in-person, online, and audio classes, workshops, and intensive retreats.
- Lead facilitator, Breitenbush Retreat Center, Detroit, OR — 2002–Present

Movement as Meditation with Dr. Matthew Fox — 2015–Present

- Thomas Aquinas Program — Orvieto, Italy, 2024
- Panel Speaker at Parliament of World Religions — 2023
- The Shift Network Online Course — 2020
- Unity Earth Online Event — 2020
- Eckart Erfurt Retreat — Erfurt, Germany, 2019
- Movement & Meditation Lecture Series — Dublin, Ireland, 2019

- Schumacher College — Devon, United Kingdom, 2015
- Movement Transformation — London, United Kingdom; Helsinki, Finland; Osnabrück, Germany, 2015

Additional Workshops & Festivals (Selected)

- Junction Dance Festival, White River Junction, VT — 2025
- Salish Sea Butoh Festival, Port Townsend, WA — 2022
- Butoh College, Portland, OR — 2019
- Radical Presence, Butoh San Francisco, CA — 2018

CHOREOGRAPHY

Recent & Selected Works

- Setting a Chair For Natsu — 2025
- Valorous Sky — Dance Company Middlebury — 2023
- Masked — Faculty Concert & ACDA Faculty Concert, Middlebury College — 2022
- On a Limb — Dance Company Middlebury — 2020
- Crossing — Ignite: New Expressive Works, Portland, OR — 2019
- Suspended Moment — Joan Mitchell Foundation, New Orleans, LA — 2019
- Confetto — Bad Unkl Sista, Grass Valley, CA — 2018
- Timisla & The Cypress Tree — Headwaters Theater, Portland, OR — 2017
- Confetto — Headwaters Theater, Portland, OR — 2017
- Suspended Moment — Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos, NM — 2017

Earlier / Additional Works (2012–2016)

- All I Know Is Nothing; Butoh ad lib; Suspended Moment (multiple venues); Bröllin Voyage; Konpaku; Kintsugi; In the Garden of Artistic Delights; Requiem; La Bruja; Rhinoceros; Tears of the Night Butterfly; ...or be dragged; We Two Boys; Une Fleur Pour Mon Amour; Let Go; Speak the Language; Kiksuya; Olowan Oyate Wichapi; I Want to Stop Wanting; Between; Desire; Sending a Voice; Cocoon Bird; Desire.

COMMISSIONED CHOREOGRAPHY

- Flying Iron — Lisa Degrace, Performance Works Northwest, Portland, OR — 2008

SELECTED PERFORMANCES

- Refugees — Ex...it Festival, Choreography by Natsu Nakajima, Schloss Bröllin, Germany — 2015
- Ghosts of Bröllin — Ex...it Festival, Choreography by Denise Fujiwara, Schloss Bröllin, Germany — 2011

RESIDENCIES

- Artist in Residence — Peñasco Theater, Peñasco, NM — 2012

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Boards & Advisory Roles

- Board of Directors — New Expressive Works, Portland, OR — 2025–Present
- Residency Program Advisor — New Expressive Works, Portland, OR — 2019–Present

Panels & Selection Committees

- Equity and the Arts Panelist — Field Work Conference, New Expressive Works, Portland, OR — 2019
- Alembic Resident Artist Selection Committee — Performance Works Northwest, Portland, OR — 2018
- Caldera Arts Artist in Residence Selection Committee — Portland, OR — 2018
- Regional Arts & Culture Council Project Grant Panel — Portland, OR — 2015
- Equity and Empowerment Lens Advisory Group — Office of Diversity & Equity, Multnomah County, Portland, OR — 2014

GRANTS & AWARDS

- Mid.data Technology Micro Grant — Middlebury College — 2022
- Professional Development Grant — Regional Arts & Culture Council — 2015
- Career Opportunity Grant — Oregon Arts Commission & Ford Family Foundation — 2015, 2012
- Project Grant — Regional Arts & Culture Council — 2013, 2011

EDUCATION & TRAINING ADDENDUM (Selected)

- Denise Fujiwara — Butoh Intensives & Solo Development — Portland, OR; Toronto, Canada — 2013–2020
- Yumiko Yoshioka — Butoh Intensive, Portland, OR — 2016
- Natsu Nakajima — Butoh Intensives, Portland, OR; Toronto, Canada; Schloss Bröllin, Germany — 2012–2015
- Atsushi Takanouchi — Butoh Intensive, Portland, OR; Schloss Bröllin, Germany — 2011–2012
- Akira Kasai — Butoh Intensives, Portland, OR; Brooklyn, NY; New York, NY — 2004–2011
- Other teachers: Yukio Waguri, Masaki Iwana, Ken Mai, Alessandro Pintus, Sachiko Ishikawa, Diego Piñon, Vin Marti (Soul Motion Levels 1–2, 2001–2002)