

CHOREOGRAPHIC TOOLS FOR BODY PERCUSSION

Learn skills for developing ideas and themes around a choreography, and how to build on these ideas into a solo, duo, or group piece. We will explore how the texture, tempo and placement of sounds with movement can ignite and incorporate both the emotion/intention of a choreography from beginning to end. This process-based workshop will start you on your path of developing your own unique body of work.

IMPROVISATIONAL TOOLS FOR BODY PERCUSSION

Have you been thrown into the middle of a dance circle and gone blank when improvising? Or found yourself dancing spontaneously in your living room alone feeling there is no way you could do the same in public or even among friends? Are you comfortable with improvisation but fall into the same patterns? Whether you are experienced with, new to, or fearful of improvisation, this workshop will give you ideas to develop simple and effective ways of playing in-the-moment. This will help break new extemporaneous ground on which to play, exploring on-the-spot with less judgment and more ease.

FROM THE FOOT TO THE BODY

This course for dancers who specialize in traditional forms of foot percussion (tap, flatfooting, Irish dance, gigue, Kathak, flamenco) will facilitate a develop a deeper sense of movement and sonic placement. Whether working within a traditional form or moving outside its bounds, we will look at how and where the body holds tension and how we can create a richer sense of flow and musicality in percussive dance.

RHYTHM TRAINING ON THE BODY

Designed for musicians, traditional dancers, and contemporary dancers, this course provides a vocabulary of rhythm exercises to enhance timing, improvisation, rhythmic grooves, accent placement, and overall listening with the aim to develop a deeper musicality within our work.

PERFORMANCE TRAINING

How do we stay true to ourselves, our training, and keep the audience with us? Endeavoring to distinguish personal and group presence and intention while onstage, this class provides exercises and tools to formulate ideas for choreography and improvisation for live performance. Students are encouraged to bring questions, ideas and works-in-progress to share for discussion and feedback.

DEMYSTIFYING ODD METERS

World music traditions from around the globe utilize time signatures that mystify the Western ear. Explore the fundamentals and grooves of these odd meters in 5's, 7's, and 9's, through clapping, slapping, footwork, and vocalizing to learn how to phrase across and amongst them both improvisationally and compositionally.

SONIC + MOVEMENT

Do you feel stuck in your body while trying to make rhythm? In this course you'll explore movement fundamentals between percussive sounds with your feet and hands, freeing yourself to initiate sound from gesture. Through the creation of footwork, hand-to-body percussion and the dynamic space between, we'll endeavor to build an embodied practice which is dynamic and tactile, leading to singular, beautifully-crafted body music, and pathways to human connection.

SWING PERCUSSION ON THE BODY

Displace the sound of the jazz drummer's brushes onto your body. In this course we will strengthen your straight-ahead and triplet time feel through interchanging grooves using clapping, slapping, stepping, and vocal body percussion.