

Ashley McQueen

PERFORMER. CHOREOGRAPHER. EDUCATOR.

Smashworks Dance, Artistic Director

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EDUCATION

Hollins University; MFA Dance — Fellowship Scholar, Class of 2018

Jeffrey Bullock, Department Chair; Stefanie Arndt, Sandra Chinn, Thaddeus Davis, Roderick George, Joe Goode, K.J. Holmes, John Jaspers, Christina Johnson, Yvonne Meier, Naomi Perlov, Christopher Roman, Ami Shulman, Tonya Wideman-Davis, Stella Zannou, Elizabeth Zimmer

Webster University; BFA Dance, Ballet Emphasis — Departmental Honors, Class of 2013

Beckah Reed, Department Chair; Leonard Cruz, Kathy Diehl, Maggi Dueker, Dawn Karlovsky, James Robey, Michael Uthoff

- Residencies with: Sally Bliss and Kirk Peterson (Antony Tudor Trust), Jennifer Huffman and Omar Olivas (Diavolo Dance Theater), Maurya Kerr (tinypistol)

Birmingham-Southern College; BA Dance — 2009-2011

Teri Weksler, Jenna McKerrow-Wilson, Ruth Henry

- Residencies with Allyne D. Gartrell, Foye DuBose

Training: Summer Intensives

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre (Attended)

Mark Morris Dance Group (Attended)

Paul Taylor Dance Company (Attended)

American Ballet Theatre (Attended)

Alabama Ballet (Attended)

Alabama Dance Theatre (Attended)

Alonzo King Lines (Accepted)

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

2017 - present Amanda Selwyn Dance Theatre, New York, NY

Artistic Director Amanda Selwyn

Threads Premiere Performance, New York Live Arts (2022)

Threads Preview Performance, Open Culture New York (2021)

Threads Preview Performance, CS Coach House (2021)

Why We Dance, A Virtual Gala (2021)

Hindsight, CUNY Residency at Baruch College (2020)

Crossroads Premiere Performance, New York Live Arts (2019)

Green Afternoon, East Hampton (2019-2022)

Refuge, Mark Morris Dance Center (2018)

2015 - present Smashworks Dance, New York, NY

Artistic Director Ashley McQueen

Drenched Virtual Premiere (2021)

Lake Arts Project, Danceworks Milwaukee (2015 - 2020)

FEMPIRE, The Tank (2019)

Hotel New Work Residency Showing, Theaterlab (2019)

Smashing News, 5th & Mad (2019)

For Which It Stands, Center for Performance Research (2018)

St. Louis Tour: ANNONYArts at Satori (2018)

RADfest, Epic Center (2018, 2019)

PLATFORM, New York Transit Museum (2017)

Westfest, All Over Westbeth (2017, 2018)

Endgame, Center Stage Theater (2017-2018)
CrestFest, Latea Theater (2019)
Evening of Contemporary Dance, Actor's Fund (2018)
Footprints Modern Dance Festival, Marjorie S. Deane Little Theater (2017)
On 1 Condition, Dixon Place (2017)
LINKED, Arts On Site (2017)
City Stories, Center for Performance Research (2016)
Dance Astoria Festival, Bohemian Hall & Beer Garden (2016)
He for She Arts Week, The Yard: Space to Work (2016)
Amalgamate Artist Series, Bridge for Dance (2016)
Tiny Dance Festival, The Brick (2015)

2015 - 2016

Shawn Bible Dance Co., New York, NY

Artistic Director Shawn Bible
Wildflower, Manhattan Movement Arts Center (2016)
Battery Dance Festival (2016)
Choke, Center for Performance Research (2015)
Dumbo Dance Festival (2015)

2015

Sans Limites Dance, New York, NY

Artistic Director Diana Petterson
Winter Concert, Connelly Theatre

2013 - 2015

Common Thread Contemporary Dance Company, St. Louis, MO

Artistic Director Jennifer Medina
Additional choreographers: Christine Knoblauch O'Neal, Uri Sands, Jennifer Huffman-Olivas
New Dance Horizons Tour
Dance St. Louis Spring to Dance Festival

2011

Arova Contemporary Ballet, Birmingham, AL

Artistic Director Alison Page
Additional Choreographer: Jennifer Medina
Spring season

CHOREOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE: COMMISSIONS

2023

Wesfest Dance Festival, New York, NY

Choreographed original site-specific work at Westbeth Artist Lofts

2022

Disassembling, Alabama Dance Theatre Summer Seminar, Montgomery, AL

Choreographed original work for summer seminar students
Restaged again in 2023

2022

Minnesota Ballet, Duluth, MN

Restaged *Beyond Self*, with co-choreographer Thom Dancy

2021

Webster University Guest Artist, St. Louis, MO

Lara Turek Alumni Guest Artist Fellowship
Digital Elegy; Set original work with projection on dance majors for Webster University Dance Ensemble

2021

Minnesota Ballet, Duluth, MN

Restaged *Suit Up* with co-choreographer Thom Dancy

2021

London Climate Change Festival, London, UK

Renewed; Choreographed and edited original dance film about renewable energy

2021

Girls Inc. Virtual Gala, New York, NY

Edited and restaged video excerpt of *Broland*

2020

Hamilton College Guest Artist in Residence, Clinton, NY

Guest Choreographer in Residence

2020

Peridance Youth Ensemble, New York, NY

Guest Choreographer for spring concert, excerpt from *For Which It Stands*

2017

PLATFORM at New York Transit Museum, Brooklyn, NY

Restaged *In Transit* on an antique subway car

2015 - 2020

Lake Arts Project, Milwaukee, WI

Choreographic collaboration with Milwaukee Ballet, Lake Arts Project, and Nomadic Limbs (Thom Dancy)
NEA Grant recipient for *War Words Dance*, collaboration with Bright Hill Press and Feast of Crispian

- 2015** **The Big Muddy Dance Company, St. Louis, MO**
Psychosocial; commissioned by Dance St. Louis
 One of four choreographers chosen for Young Choreographer's Showcase; Dance St. Louis Festival
- 2014 - 2017** **Arova Contemporary Ballet, Birmingham, AL**
Drenched; Restaged evening length work set in water (2017)
Wall Street; original choreography (2016)
Angere; restaged (2014)
- 2014 - 2015** **Kranzberg Exhibition Guest Artist, St. Louis, MO**
Laune; Directed and choreographed site-specific dance on rideable lawn mowers for Laumeier Sculpture Park
 Designed a grass pattern for the performance site, and also collaborated Alan and Jesse Schilling to create original sound score
 Culminating video installation, *Harmony in 3*, in collaboration with Zlatko Cosic premiered at Abrons Art Center

CHOREOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE: SMASHWORKS DANCE

- 2022** **CITY STORIES, Center for Performance Research | New York, NY**
 Evening length performance in collaboration with Swedish visual artist Benny Cruz
 Created three-wall video projection installation and choreography for 6 performers
- 2022** **Benny Cruz Gallery Performance, Box Factory Gallery | Brooklyn, NY**
 Created performance installation in collaboration with Swedish visual artist Benny Cruz at his gallery opening
- 2021** **Drenched Film Premiere | New York, NY**
 Collaboration with videographer David Tufino; Edited and choreographed 23 minute dance film (in water room)
- 2020** **Drenched Work-In-Progress Live Performance, Arts On Site | New York, NY**
 Work in progress performance
- 2019** **FEMPIRE at Ladyfest, The Tank | New York, NY**
 Self-produced evening length work in collaboration with Hope Salas & Justin Cimino; introduces various women characters of strength and uncensored expressions of truth, playfully pushing against gender normative stereotypes through feminist camp.
- 2019** **Hotel New Work Residency, Theater Lab | New York, NY**
 Awarded 40 hour space grant and showing opportunity in collaboration with Hope Salas & Justin Cimino
 A residency dedicated to exploring the fusion of dance performance with clown
- 2018** **For Which It Stands, Center for Performance Research | Brooklyn, NY & ANNONYArts at Satori | St. Louis, MO**
 Political performance piece with original sound score/projection installation featuring 9 episodic dances that satirize the Trump administration (8 performers)
Featured in Time Out NY and Brooklyn's Top 20 Things to Do
- 2018** **Digitized, Westfest: All Over Westbeth, Westbeth Artist Community | New York, NY**
 Site-specific work with original projection installation
- 2017** **Revamped, Westfest: All Over Westbeth, Westbeth Artist Community | New York, NY**
 Site-specific work created on large outdoor ramp
- 2016** **City Stories, Center for Performance Research | Brooklyn, NY**
 Evening length performance featuring 3 premiere works (9 performers)
In Transit (featuring original projection installation of site-specific dance film)
Wall Street (8 performers)
Messy Humans (8 performers)
Named Village Voice "Voice Choices"
- 2016 - 2018** **Smashworks Social, 63 Wall Street | New York, NY**
 Self-produced fundraising event
(2016) Wide Open Claustrophobia; site-specific work set in windows overlooking Manhattan skyline (8 performers)
(2017) Colorized; site-specific solo with projection installation
(2018) Refusing to be Disposed; site-specific improvisational score using paint and projection (excerpt from Master's thesis)
- 2016** **Take Root at Green Space | Astoria, NY**
Unveiled, evening length work on folding chairs

DIRECTORAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- 2015 - present** **Smashworks Dance Inc., New York, NY**
Artistic Director and Founder of 501(c)(3) nonprofit dance company
Education Outreach Coordinator: developing curriculum and building relationships with education partners
- 2019** **Girls Move Free, New York, NY**
Self-produced evening length benefit performance supporting Global Girls Alliance; hosted at Gibney Dance
Featuring curated guest performers *The Ephyras Children's Company*
- 2019** **Smashing News, New York, NY**
Self-produced fundraising event featuring site-specific installations
Hosted by *5th & Mad*
- 2016** **Smashworks Film Festival, New York, NY**
Self-produced and curated dance film festival hosted at Arts On Site
Featuring 11 dance film artists and live musicians
Proceeds benefited Planned Parenthood
- 2014 - 2015** **ANNONYArts at Satori, St. Louis, MO**
Directed and Choreographed 2 evening concerts
Variations on Exchange; six original choreographic works
Drenched; evening length work set in pools of water

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2021-2022** **Adjunct Professor of Modern Dance, Manhattanville College | Purchase, NY**
Developed Curriculum for Modern Dance Technique I & II
Professor of Dance for 3 semesters

Master Classes

- Western Michigan University (MI)
Lindenwood University (MO)
Webster University (MO)
Hollins University (VA)
Manhattanville College (NY)
RADFest (MI)
Arova Contemporary Ballet (AL) - Choreographic residency, open classes
Alabama Dance Theatre (AL) - Summer Intensive Guest Artist
Imagine Dance Project (MO)
Ashleyliane Dance Company (MO)
ANNONYArts at Satori (MO)
- 2019 - 2022** **Girl Scouts of Greater New York, Teaching Artist | New York, NY**
External Programs Director for Smashworks Dance Badge
Designing confidence-building curriculum and teaching dance badge workshops for Brownies (age 7-10)
Virtually taught workshops for Troop 6000
- 2021 - present** **Rebel Girls Master Class Workshops, Teaching Artist | Virtual, New York, NY**
Ballet Class and Movement Workshop, Book Reading in collaboration with Rebel Girls Productions
- 2016 - 2020** **Notes In Motion Outreach Dance Theatre, Teaching Artist | New York, NY**
Developing my own curriculum for residencies with New York public schools
Residencies with P.S. 63, 3rd grade Modern and 5th grade Jazz; Pre-K -5th grade Environmental Activism & Movement
- 2019** **New Sanctuary Coalition, Teaching Artist | New York, NY**
Volunteering by leading dance workshops to local immigrant children at the NSC after school program
- 2016 - 2018** **West Side YMCA, Teaching Artist | New York, NY**
Modern and Choreography Instructor, ages 7-11
Developed my own curriculum for choreography and improvisation structures
- 2016** **Arts On Site, Open Contemporary Class | New York, NY**
Hosted open company class for Smashworks Dance
- 2014 - 2015** **Saint Louis Ballet School, Pre-Ballet/Ballet I Instructor | St Louis, MO**
- 2010, 2014** **Alabama Dance Theatre, Guest Faculty (Ballet/Modern) | Montgomery, AL**

PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

- 2021 **Lara Turek Alumni Guest Artist Fellowship, Webster University**
- 2020 ***Alicia Alonso Takes The Stage***
Co-wrote movement activities for chapter book in partnership with Rebel Girls Productions
Published worldwide 2020
- 2018 **Michelle Obama *Becoming* Tour, Smashworks Dance**
Invited as community group to hear Michelle Obama speak on her *Becoming* tour at the Barclays Center
- 2019 **Hotel New Work Residency, TheaterLab NYC**
- 2018 **Alternate, Jacob's Pillow Choreography Fellowship**
- 2016 - 2018 **Fellowship Scholar, Hollins University MFA Dance Program**
- 2013 **Departmental Honors, Webster University**
- 2013 **Dance Demonstration Fellow, Webster University**
- 2012 **Monticello Award: Scholarship to National Choreography Intensive; choreographer for *Melodious***
- 2009 **Birmingham-Southern College Fine Arts Society Award for Excellence in Dance**
- 2009 **Birmingham-Southern College Faculty of Dance Honors for Choreography**
- 2008 **Scholarship: Glenda Brown Choreography Project**
- 2008 **Monticello Award: Scholarship to National Choreography Intensive; dancer**

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Pure Barre-certified Fitness Instructor & Lead Teacher (8 years),
Pure Barre Jersey City + Hoboken Studio Manager (3 years),
Video Editor (8 years)