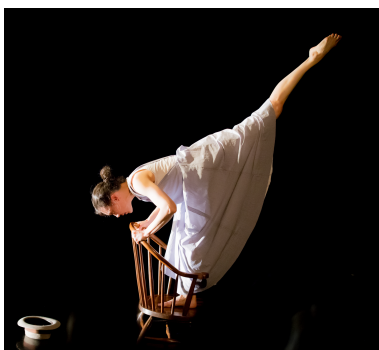




Community Engagement



Photos: Sarah Larson

Master Classes / Workshops

Jenni offers classes in conjunction with a performance residency, or as stand-alone experiences. Her multidisciplinary creation/performance practice spans dance, theatre, music, improvisation, and mindfulness meditation. Classes can be adapted to different populations - professional performing artists, students, and non-professionals of all ages.

As a teacher of pre/professional dance and theatre practitioners, Jenni's goal is to cultivate versatile, deeply embodied independent artists grounded in presence, play, and holistic wellness. Jenni's goal as a teacher of diverse students at any level is to make people feel alive and connected by inspiring wholeness, sharing joy, and strengthening community through creativity and self-expression.

Embodied Presence

What is "presence" in performance? In this experiential workshop, we will witness presence through activities that enact awareness of the present moment. These include mindfulness meditation, breathwork, movement improvisation, and exercises inspired by postmodern dancer/choreographer/theoretician Mary Overlie's Viewpoints and improvisational dance/theatre artist Ruth Zaporah's Action Theater.

Dancing Clown

Dancers and physical performers will broaden their performance skills through this introduction to clowning, a physical theatre form and actor training method. Workshop topics include vulnerability, authenticity, clown logic, play, moment-to-moment awareness, audience engagement, community and status.

The Dramaturgy of Objects

What metaphors, stories and kinetic potential do objects hold? Using creative practices from dance composition, clowning and object manipulation, participants will uncover the hidden dramatic potential of moving with objects.



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Texting While Moving

Dancers and actors will participate in physical and vocal exercises, culminating in small group or solo sketches. Dance and theater activities invite participants to interact playfully with words and movement, deconstructing and discovering new meanings.

Bodytecture

Dancers and actors will increase their sensitivity to space through an embodied exploration of architecture. Buildings and architectural concepts combine with movement improvisation and dance composition in order to attune participants' experiencing of the body in space. Activities provide resources for choreographing, stage directing, and fully inhabiting everyday spaces.

Performing Ourselves

Participants' own lived experiences become source material for multidisciplinary performance. Drawing on Jenni's own artistic process, the workshop focuses on different ways of pairing text, sound, and movement to perform meaningful embodied stories. Working together and alone, participants generate source material through improvisation, choreographic and theatrical structures, Laban effort factors, free writing, research, and dialogue. They may explore cultural identities, histories, genders, spiritualities, socio-economic status, memory, and more.

Humanature

Reconnect to your innate humanness by connecting more deeply with nature. Inspired by *Shinrin-Yoku*, the Japanese practice of forest bathing, Jenni guides participants in a sensorial, embodied experience of the outdoors through mindfulness and movement improvisation. Activities will be gentle, and no prior dance/movement training is necessary, although participants should be able to stand and walk outside for approximately two hours.

Moving Breath

Breath is the key to life, movement, and rhythm. It reflects our consciousness, feelings, and thoughts. Using breathwork, mindfulness and movement, participants engage the mind-body connection to find comfort in their bodies; move with ease and efficiency; and live/perform from a place grounded in presence-peace-pleasure.



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Dance Composition for Actors and Directors

Gain a deeper understanding of the dramatic potential of shape, space, time, and energy for your own work in theatre.

Intro to Laban Effort Factors for Actors

Learn basic Laban language to articulate how the body is moving and expressing, giving you tools for movement coaching and your own physical performance.

Tools for Art and Life: Yoga and Meditation

Jenni shares her yoga and meditation practices, cultivated over more than 10 years of self-study and teaching. Focus may be on yogic philosophy, yoga asanas (physical postures), yoga pranayama (breathwork), Vipassana and mindfulness meditation techniques. Classes are structured to meet students where they are in mind-body-spirit-practice, regardless of level of experience.

Lecture / Demonstration / Conversation

Lecture - Embodying Untold Stories: Dance and Performance Ethnography

How might dance contribute to performance ethnography, an evolving method of social scientific research? As a case study, Jenni refers to her original dance theatre work, *Mrs. Wrights*, inspired by the five women closest to American architect Frank Lloyd Wright. The show blends embodiment and text, dancing and acting, to display lived experiences and convey historical stories. Her body becomes a living archive that projects lesser-known female voices and stories, resists popular historical canons, interrogates historical authorship, and destabilizes notions of history as fixed and terminal.

Referring to video excerpts of her work, photographs of historical research, and personal anecdotes, Jenni concludes with a general discussion of the contributions dance might make to ethnographic research. Somatic dance pedagogy's emphasis on sensory and kinesthetic awareness, and dancers' unique attunement to the elements of movement - body, effort, space, time - suggest opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration between dance and social science practitioners through (historical) performance ethnography. Going outside the proverbial (black) box, *Mrs. Wrights* demonstrates the epistemological value of embodiment to excavate the experiences of underrepresented historical subjects.

Demonstration/Conversation - Meet *Mrs. Wrights*

A four-part series introducing audiences to each of the four "Mrs. Wrights" -



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1. Olgivanna
2. Catherine
3. Mamah
4. Miriam

Each hour-long demonstration/conversation will focus on one of the women. Jenni will show an excerpt and invite participants to provide thoughts and impressions using a non-directorial feedback process. Within a talkback format, she then will discuss her historical research and creative process.

Lecture/Demonstration - Embodying *Mrs. Wrights*: Process to Performance

As a dance and theatre artist, one of Jenni's main interests is in the interplay between the body and text in performance. In *Mrs. Wrights*, the ephemerality of dancing reflects the real but forgotten contributions women made within and beyond architect Frank Lloyd Wright's buildings. The script - assembled from historical documents - finds analogue in the permanent record of Wright's architectural legacy, the tangible buildings the women inhabited. This tension between text and body then becomes a metaphor for male and female historical representation, supporting Jenni's larger agenda to consider who and what makes history. Shedding new light on local lore, she gives audiences a more complete picture of historical stories.

Through excerpts (video and live performance), photos of historical research, and personal anecdotes, Creator/Performer Jenni Reinke shares her artistic process to create *Mrs. Wrights*. She begins by discussing her personal intention, larger goals, and historical and architectural research. Positing choreography as the dramaturgy of embodiment, she then discusses her physical/bodily research process and choreographic and dramaturgical choices to prioritize female experience and to make visible women whose histories have been overshadowed by the tower of male "genius."