

Katrina McPherson is an award-winning director and screendance artist whose creative, scholarly and educational work is at the forefront of the international field. Having trained as a dancer and choreographer at Laban in London, an early career fascination with the collaborative possibilities of dance and the moving image led her to complete a post-graduate in Electronic Imaging (video art) at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, laying the foundations of what would become a life-long, multi-faceted and influential engagement with dance on screen.

Katrina's collaborative films, installations and on-line works have been presented at venues and festivals worldwide. Since the early 1990s, Katrina has been regularly awarded funding from public and private organisations, institutions and arts councils, including in 2002 being a recipient of the prestigious *Creative Scotland Award* of £25,000 to an individual artist. A number of works that she has directed are held in collections including Lux Artists' Moving Image UK, Routledge's on-line Performance Archive and the British Council. Over a period of 15 years, Katrina was a director of arts programmes for UK television, making films for the BBC, STV and Channel Four.

Katrina has collaborated with numerous international dance artists including Sang Jijia (China/Tibet), Crystal Pite (Canada), Marc Brew (UK/US), Simon Ellis (NZ/UK), Harold Rheume (Quebec) and Kirstie Simson (UK/US). Her approach remains at the cutting edge of concepts and technology and yet of great interest to the wider public.

Katrina is currently Associate Artist at Dance Base and Dance North Associate Artist. In October 2019, she received Creative Scotland Open Project Funding to research and develop three strands of activity related to deepening and diversifying screendance practice in and beyond Scotland. In 2019, she and choreographer Harold Rheume received funding from the British Council/ Quebec Government's Connections Programme for their collaborative screendance project *Paysages Elargis/ Widening Landscapes*. In January 2020, Katrina received a Career Achievement Award at Dance Camera West Festival in Los Angeles.

Katrina is the author of *Making Video Dance – a step-by-step guide to creating dance for the screen*, the second edition of which was published by Routledge in 2018. Katrina has mentored, taught workshops and lectured across the globe. She is Adjunct Associate Professor in the College of Fine Arts at the University of Utah, USA, where she leads the screendance programme. Most recently, Katrina has been adapting her teaching to the on-line environment and enjoying the new concepts and potential that this is offering in her work with artists across the world.

Artistic commissions/directed works (selected)

2019

Paysages Mixtes| Mixed Landscapes (2019). Katrina co-directed and performed this new 15-minute dance film with Canadian choreographer Harold Rheume, Artistic Director of the Quebec City-based dance company Le Fils d'Adrien Danse. The development of this work was funded by British Council (BC), the ministère de la Culture et des Communications (MCC) du Québec et le ministère des Relations internationales et de la Francophonie (MRIF) du Québec, as part of a two-year cultural exchange project to establish networks for programming and curating live and screen dance work in Quebec and Scotland (2017/18), as well as the production of new work.

Paysages Mixtes| Mixed Landscapes was premiered at the Rise Festival in Scotland and has had subsequent screenings including at Le Festival de Cinema de la Ville de Quebec (September 2019) and Dance Camera West, Los Angeles (Jan 2020) and Movies by Movers at the American Dance Festival, North Carolina (2020).

2018

And that is what you see us by (2018). Katrina received funding from Creative Scotland develop this new screen dance installation with live performance, created in collaboration with dance artists Simon Ellis and Natalia Barua and presented at The Work Room, Glasgow in March 2018.

2016 - 2019

we record ourselves (2016). A single screen dance film and 22-monitor screen dance installation created with Simon Ellis, Natalia Barua and Owa Barua. Katrina was commissioned to make this work by Threshold arts, Perth as part of a residency at the Margaret Morris Archive. Its creation was also supported by Creative Scotland and University of Coventry. The work has since been screened at: the Centre for Contemporary Art, Glasgow; Light Moves Festival of Screen Dance; Ireland; Le Festival de Cinema de la Ville de Quebec, and won the competition to be re-worked for the 10-meter high MediaWall at Bath Spa University as part of the Journal of Media Practice and MeCCSA Practice Network Annual Symposium.

2015

In February 2015, *Pace*, a screen dance work directed by Katrina McPherson and choreographed by Marisa Zanotti, was curated by John Akomfrah as part of the *History is Now* exhibition at the Hayward Gallery, London. *Pace* was commissioned in 1995 for the BBC/Arts Council of Great Britain's prestigious Dance for the Camera series, was broadcast on BBC2 and has had numerous international festival screenings including Oberhausen Short Film Festival, Germany, IMZ Dance Screen and Rotation '03 in Helsinki, Finland. In Dec 2019, it was included as part of the SSA/Cutlog exhibition at the Royal Scottish Academy Gallery in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Coire Ruidh (2015) Filmed and co-directed with Simon Fildes, this screendance work was shot in the Cairngorm Mountains, with dance artists Frank McConnell, Ruth Jensen and Robbie Synge. The single screen version has been presented at over 20 international festivals including the San Francisco Dance Film Festival, USA, Danca em Foco in Brazil, Videodanza in Argentina and Light Moves Festival in Ireland.

2014

Uath Lochans (2014) Filmed, and co-directed with Simon Fildes, and featuring dance artist Marc Brew, this screendance short has been selected for screenings at more than 35 dance film festivals worldwide including in Ireland, Portugal, Brazil, Mexico, USA, UK, India, Spain and Sweden.

Hyperchoreography 2 (2014) This most recent version of the interactive screendance installation, made in collaboration with Simon Fildes and Chinese Tibetan choreographer Sang Jijia. Premiered in Hong Kong in 2014 and subsequently installed at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Beijing, China where, over a 2-month period, it was interacted with by over 80,000 members of the public. *Hyperchoreography 2* was also installed at Tramway, Glasgow in 2015.

2013

The Time It Takes (2013). Katrina received individual artist funding from Creative Scotland for this single screen work, which she directed and filmed on South Uist in the Outer Hebrides, working with dance artists Rosalind Masson, Simon Ellis and Dai Jian. This award-winning work has had over 40 International screenings including in Hong Kong, Los Angeles, Montreal, Tokyo & Stockholm.

2012

Away From Here (2012). Katrina directed this large-scale production for a 15 Minute dance film, choreographed by Frank McConnell and produced by Plan B Productions. Screenings include a three film installation featuring the landscape-based work (*Away From Here; The Time it Takes; There is a Place*) by Katrina McPherson in collaboration with Simon Fildes at Dansens Hus in Stockholm, Sweden, in September 2013.

2010

There is a Place (2010) Made in collaboration with Chinese Tibetan dancer/choreographer Sang Jijia and Simon Fildes, with a soundtrack by Philip Jeck, this short film was funded by Creative Scotland, Dance House Glasgow and CCDC, Hong Kong. The film won Jury Prize for Best Screendance at San Francisco Dance Film Festival in 2011, with many international screenings incl. Amsterdam, Hong Kong, Utah & Buenos Aires.

2007

Move-me.com (2007) A co-production with Ricochet Dance and featuring 8 top-flight international choreographers, this was a unique interactive dance installation commissioned by Arts Council England, Creative Scotland and private sponsors. Toured to venues across the UK, Holland, Australia and New Zealand. www.move-me.com was nominated for a Webby award.

2003

The Truth (2003) Directed this 30 minute screen dance work with choreographers Paulo Ribiero and Fin Walker, produced by Ricochet Dance Productions.

2001

Booth, Big and others (2001). A series of short, experimental dance films made in collaboration with choreographer Crystal Pite and Rocochet Dance whilst in residency at Dance East at the Maltings, Norfolk, England.

2001

Sense-8 (2001) Produced and directed this dance film with choreographer Katy Dymoke of Touchdown Dance, working with sighted and visually impaired dancers in the Contact Improvisation form. Commissioned for the Arts Council England's *Capture* series.

2000

Moment (2000) Produced and directed this video dance short. Moment was awarded Best Screen Choreography award at the IMZ Dance Screen Festival in Monaco, with screenings at many festivals, curated programmes and on broadcast TV across the world, including at Moving Pictures, Canada, Mostra Video Danza, Barcelona, and Rotation '03 in Helsinki, Finland.

1998

Pictureshow (1998), a live screen dance work made in collaboration with dancer/choreographer Harold Rheaume (Quebec), writer Marianne Carey and composer Haftor Medboe (Scotland). Performed in Glasgow and at Tangente Theatre in Montreal.

Broadcast and documentary directing credits (selected since 2000)

In Motion (2018). Directed this series for the BBC's on-line platform The Space. Made with The Work Room Glasgow, these 4 short documentaries showcase Scottish dance films and, in the first month of being on-line, had 68,000 viewings on-line.

Dance Explosion (2015). Co-directed this 40-minute documentary funded by Creative Scotland about how art changes lives and featuring the work of choreographer/teachers Royston Maldoon and Tamara McLorg as they return to Scotland, 30 years after introducing dance to a whole new community.

Force of Nature (2012) Directed and filmed this 70-minute dance documentary featuring internationally renowned improvising dance artist Kirstie Simson. Funded by the University Dundee, Scotland and University of Illinois, USA. Public screenings include New York and Salt Lake City, USA, Berlin and Findhorn. *Force of Nature* is part of the Routledge Performance Archive.

This Scotland: Catching the Tide (2005). Directed this 30-minute documentary about photographer Colin McPherson, commissioned by Scottish Screen, Scottish TV & Grampian TV and screened on STV. Also bought and broadcast by the Australia Broadcast Company.

Adugna (2001) Filmed and directed this 30-min documentary about the work of the choreographer and teacher Royston Maldoon in Addis Ababa and *Symphony* (2001), a 15 minute documentary about a performance project lead by Royston Maldoon in Holloway Women's Prison. Both these films have screened at many cinemas and festivals, including the NFT in London, in Tallinn, Estonia, Dance on Camera Festival in New York and with the Reel Moves Festival Tour of Australia and New Zealand.

Artworks Scotland: Making a Monster (2002). Directed this 30-minute doc on 'Monster', an opera about Mary Shelley by composer Sally Beamish and writer Janice Galloway. Broadcast on BBC Scotland on 2.

Artworks Scotland: State of the Arts (2001). Directed this 30-minute presenter-lead programme looking at current issues in the arts in Scotland. Broadcast on BBC 2 & 4.

Film 2000 with Jonathan Ross (2000). Director on the BBC1's flagship cinema review programme. Directed half hour 'specials' on the Oscars and Cannes Film Festival.

Rough Cuts ('99). Director of BBC2's weekly movie review programme.

Good Stuff ('98). Series Director on the weekly arts magazine programme presented by Davina McCall for London Weekend Television.

My Mackintosh ('99) Directed five documentary shorts about the architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh. A Hand Pict Production for Channel Four.

Building a Nation ('99). Directed and co-wrote this six-part landmark series about Scotland's architecture. A Wark Clements Production for BBC Scotland on 2.

Edinburgh Nights ('95 & '96). Director on BBC2's magazine programme from the Edinburgh International Festival. Made films on Sam Shepard, Rambert Dance Company, Martha Graham Dance Company and Yvette Boszik Dance.

N.B. and *Don't Look Down* ('94 & '95). Director on these weekly arts and Scottish International (1994). Series Director of seven 30-min factual programmes about Scottish/French connections both for Scottish TV.

Teaching

2020

Trainer and Mentor for Birmingham Dance Network's on-line ChoreoMatch project, teaching and supporting a group of up to 20 dancers and choreographers to create original works for the screen.

Mentor for East London Dance's ScreenShare', programme for young screendance artists, as part of the Mesa Festival, a multi-arts initiative that aims to engage young artists, elevate underrepresented voices and provide a seat at the table for those without one.

Associate Lecturer at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick, Ireland, teaching the Screendance course for 4th Year BA Dance students.

Jan 2019 – current

Associate Professor of Screendance at the University of Utah, USA.

Advanced Screendance Capstone course.

Graduate Screendance Course

Under-graduate screendance course

I was given the remit to devise the curriculum for and deliver this new advanced graduate course. The aim of the course is to provide in-depth investigation, theory, and production of Screendance, and as such it offers context and mentorship for the capstone project required for those pursuing the Graduate Certificate in Screendance at the University of Utah.

2016 - 19

Visiting Lecturer of Screendance on the post-graduate dance course at Bath Spa University, England.

Visiting Lecturer of Screendance on the BA and MA courses in Dance Performance at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick, Ireland.

Katrina McPherson

Screendance artist | director | teacher | writer

- 2017/18 Taught professional level screendance workshops in Quebec City, Scotland and Berlin.
- 2015/16 With Professor Douglas Rosenberg, (University of Wisconsin), initiated and led the first International Symposium of Teachers of Screendance, hosted by the American Dance Festival and at Dance for Camera Festival in New York City and attended by lecturers in screendance at universities in USA, UK and Canada.
- 2015 Guest Teacher at *Circuit-Est, Montreal, Canada*, leading a 5-day screen dance intensive for professional artists with Priscilla Guy (Canada).
- Guest Teacher of workshop for professional artists at Cinedans Festival in Quebec City, Canada. I also taught a master class for under-graduate dance students at L'Ecole de Dans de Quebec.
- 2012 & 15 Guest teacher in Screen dance at *Tanzfabrik Summer Dance Intensive*, Berlin.
- 2014 Guest teacher at *SITE in Stockholm, Sweden*, leading a 5-day screen dance workshop for 22 professional artists.
- 2011 Taught 10-day intensive *screen dance workshop* for screen dance graduate students at the *University of Utah, USA*.
- 2010 Guest artist/lecturer for 5 days at *Beijing Dance Academy, China*. Taught workshops in screen dance at *Hong Kong Baptist University* and with *Jumping Frames Video Dance Festival* in Macau, China.
- Taught 5-day intensive screen dance course at *Tanzplan Improwinter* workshop for professional artists at *Gret Paluca Schule, Dresden, Germany*.
- 2006-2009 *Lecturer in Media Arts and Dance* at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, Dundee. Established a post-graduate screen dance strand as part of the MSc Media Arts course in the School of Media Arts and Imaging.
- 2008 Co-taught two 3-day intensive workshops for professional artists, at *Dance House, Melbourne* and at *Carriageworks, Sydney, Australia*.
- Guest lecturer, *Deakin University, Melbourne* and *Victoria College of the Arts, Dance Department, Melbourne, Australia*.

- 2005/06 Research Fellow, *School of Media Arts and Imaging, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, Dundee University.*
- 2006 Directed *Girlband*, an educational dance film, produced in association with East Lothian District Arts Council and funded by the *Scottish Arts Council's Children and Young People Fund.*
Taught 7-day *International Screen Dance Masterclass* at The Place, London.
- 2000-2001 Freelance lecturer at *London Studio Centre* on the BA Dance Studies and *Roehampton Institute*, University of Surrey and at London Studio Centre. Courses in *screen dance* and *post-modern dance.*

Publications

- 2020 Author 'Walking in the Light – reflection on screendance in the time of a pandemic, an article published in the *International Journal of Screen Dance* (Vol 12, 2020).
- 2019 Author of '*Reflecting on Light Moves Festival of Screendance.*' an article published in the *International Journal of Screen Dance* (Vol 10, 2019).
- 2018 Sole author of *Making Video Dance – a step-by- step guide to creating dance for the screen*, (Routledge, 2006 & 2018). Sole author of this screendance workbook, which was the first of its kind to be published and is a core text on under and post-graduate screendance courses world-wide. The 2nd Edition of *Making Video Dance* was published by Routledge in September 2018.
- 2016 Author of '*Watch film, watch dance films, watch more dance films.*' published in the *International Journal of Screen Dance* (Vol 6, 2016).

Katrina McPherson

1 Balcarres Court,

Edinburgh EH10 5JL

+ 44 (0) 7798 563 799 katrinamcpherson@mac.com @katrinamcphersonart

www.katrinamcpherson.com ; www.makingvideodance.com