

## **MARTHA GRAHAM TECHNIQUE: CHRISTINE DAKIN**

Christine Dakin was chosen by Ms. Graham for the Martha Graham Dance Company in 1976 and is known for her performances of Graham's own roles in classic works *Appalachian Spring*, *Cave of the Heart*, *Night Journey*, *Lamentation* and for the principal roles Graham created for her in *Rite of Spring* and *Phaedra's Dream* in which she was partnered by Rudolf Nureyev in the Opera houses of Paris, Berlin and the NY State Theater. Speaking and dancing roles were created for her by Robert Wilson, Twyla Tharp and Martha Clarke. As Artistic Director with Terese Capucilli, they lead the company to its rebirth, credited with bringing the artistic excellence and repertory of the Company to a level not seen since Martha Graham's death. They were named Artistic Directors Laureate in 2005. Currently creating work for her are choreographers Alejandro Chávez, Brice Mousset and Jaime Blanc whose work "Short Story" she premiered at the 92Y New York, Cinco de Mayo Festival 2017 and at Teatro Juarez, Gto., Mexico as guest artist with Compañía Ciudad Interior. She produced 'A Moment of Dance' at the Neighborhood Playhouse Theater, 2017, performing classic Graham work and collaborating and performing with Brice Mousset's in his work "Je suis une autre".

Dakin wrote and directed the film *La Voz del Cuerpo / The Body Speaks*. Created with dancers and musicians from Mexico and the United States, it was official selection of the 2013 New York Independent Film Festival, Golden Door International Film Festival, NEWFILMMAKERS NY 2014, and has been shown at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Oaxaca, Mexico and for International Day of Dance UNESCO in Barcelona, Spain.

Dakin taught for a decade at The Juilliard School and currently is on the faculty of The Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre, the Ailey School, and has been guest teacher for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Company. She was Visiting Lecturer at Harvard University's Faculty of Arts and Sciences (2006, 2009) and is founding member/dancer of Buglisi Dance Theatre (1993), founder/teacher of *danz.fest* (Italy 2008), *Invernadero Danza* (Mexico 2009), Creative Advisor in the New Directions Choreography Lab of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Foundation (2016, 2017) and 'Coreografa Guia' for the 3er Encuentro de Creación Coreográfica EnTiempoReal2017 (Mexico).

Dakin is honored to have received a "Bessie" (2003), the Dance Magazine Award (1994), and a Fellowship from Harvard University's Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study (2007/08). She was awarded the Labat Grand Prix "Giuliana Penzi" 2015 Career Award, a University of Michigan Alumni Award (2001) and Honorary Doctor of Arts from the Universidad de Colima, Mexico (2007) and Shenandoah University (2001).

Maintaining a special relationship with the Mexican dance community since 1981, she has been guest artist/teacher with Ballet Nacional de México, Universidad de Colima's Univerdanza and Ballet Folklórico (Dir. Rafael Zamarripa), the Universidad de Veracruz, Centro de las Artes Sn. Luis Potosí and Compañía Ciudad Interior. Her choreography in collaboration with Mexican composers and scenic designers has premiered in Mexico City and the International Festival Sn. Luis Potosí.

Dakin's teaching and choreography has been supported by a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award (1999), the Fondo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes Mexico, (2000) and two Rockefeller- US-Mexico Fund for Culture grants (1998, 2001) and by the USIA in Russia and South America. She was recipient of a CEC ArtsLink grant for work with revolutionary choreographer Olga Bavdilovich in Vladivostok, Russia (1996). On film she has been seen on "In Performance at the White House", in performances in Tokyo, Japan, the Paris Opera and was featured performer in the 1993 French documentary *Les Printemps du Sacre*. With Radcliffe Institute colleague, physicist Jane Wang, she is investigating with artists and scientists "Locomotion/Emotion; perception of complex movement and the dynamics of beauty".