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grounding
moves:

landscapes
for
dance



Grounding Moves: Landscapes for Dance

June 15-18 2006

The Banff Centre for the Arts, Alberta Canada

The Society of Dance History Scholars invites submissions for its twenty-ninth annual conference, hosted by the Banff Centre for the Arts in Alberta, Canada, a unique centre known for its dedication to the arts and to creative process, and for its breathtaking location in the heart of the Rocky Mountains.

In recognition of this stunning site and the vibrant role the Banff Centre has played in Canada for decades, the 2006 conference will engage with the ongoing dance projects fostered in this location. These include the unique and internationally-renowned "Aboriginal Dance Project," which will celebrate its tenth anniversary in 2006; the many cutting edge media and visual arts programs of the Banff New Media Institute, which include numerous projects that integrate dance and technology; and the Centre's renowned ballet program, which has trained dancers in Canada since the 1940s. The program committee hopes to stimulate proposals that will look at Aboriginal dance, dance and new media, ballet training, and issues of state and institutional support that may be raised by the success of the Banff Centre itself.

Although the conference proposes and promotes this focus on the Banff Centre, we welcome proposals outside that realm. The conference is open to any new research in dance studies and we imagine that the issues raised will be applicable to dance practices, institutional structures and histories in locations the world over.

Questions include:

*What is dance's relation to institutional structures?

*How do issues of self-determination, ownership, state control, intellectual and artistic property, sovereignty, and of European-imposed definitions about these, intersect with the histories of institutional support?

*How have -- and haven't -- Aboriginal dance practices flourished in relation to these structures and in the face of institutional constraints?

*What is ballet's relationship to institutional structures, such as those provided by governments or schools (universities, conservatories, arts centers, neighborhood studios); to cities (New York, Winnipeg, Seoul, Beijing...); and by ideologies of, for example, gender, nationalism and globalization?

*What possibilities do the realms of new media hold in addressing these histories and issues? In contributing to the extension and evolution of dance practices and performance?

* How does dance ground practitioners across geographic, institutional, and ideological divides?

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Submissions encouraged for individual papers and panels, as well as for roundtable discussions, movement workshops, lecture-demonstrations, collaborative presentations, and other formats that will enable the active engagement of conference participants.

Submission guidelines can be found at <http://www.sdhs.org/confpropinst.html>.
More info on the Banff Centre can be found at: <http://www.banffcentre.ca/about/>

Submissions should be postmarked by **November 15, 2005**. Please send *six copies* of the proposal along with the submission form to:

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Other members of the committee include: Susan C. Cook (School of Music, University of Wisconsin, Madison); Susan Kozel (School of Interactive Arts and Technology, Simon Fraser University); Allana Lindgren (SSHRC Post-Doctoral Fellow, University of Victoria); Jens Richard Giersdorf (Department of Dance Studies, University of Surrey); and Nadine Graves-George (Department of Theatre and Dance, University of California, San Diego). No submissions will be accepted by fax or email. Queries may be addressed by email to: jshea@ucr.edu

