

FRANCISCO SAJO GELLA
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EDUCATION

1996 Bachelor of Arts in Dance
University of Washington, Seattle, WA

CHOREOGRAPHIC WORKS AND COMMISSIONS

2018 'Aloneness', Repertory Dance Theatre, Salt Lake City, CA
'Trenched', Danceworks, Escazu, Costa Rica

2017 "Timelapse", Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Jacksonville, FL
"Untitled", New Century Dance Project, Salt Lake City, UT
"Flow", National Dance Institute (NDI), Santa Fe, NM
"Verano Poteno", The Dallas Conservatory, Dallas, TX
"Tango Passages", Master Ballet Academy, Scottsdale, AZ
"Roots", The Dance Studio of Fresno, Fresno, CA
"Palladio", Danceworks, Escazu, Costa Rica
"Batique", Dancemakers Atlanta, Atlanta, GA
"Rachmaninov Concerto" and "Rhapsody", The Dance Institute, Austin, TX
"I Exist Because of You", and "Cloud Three", Columbia City Jazz,
Columbia, SC
"Vigilance", Studio Fusion, Huntington Beach, CA
"Infra", Hawkins School of Performing Arts, Castro, CA
"Lyra Angelica", Dance Connection, Scottsdale, AZ

2016 "Between the Lines", PHILADANCO, Philadelphia Dance Company,
Philadelphia, PA (for the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts)
"Souvenirs de Mouvement", Booker T. Washington High School for the
Performing and Visual Arts, Dallas, TX
"Collage", The Dance Studio of Fresno, Fresno, CA
"Untitled", Cary Ballet Conservatory, Cary, North Carolina
"Configured Echoes", Dance Connection, Phoenix, AZ
"Elements", Danceworks, Escazu, Costa Rica
"Four Dimensions", The Dance Institute, Austin, TX
"Consolation", Dance Industry, Dallas, TX
"Violin Concerto", Columbia City Jazz, Columbia, South Carolina
"Birds of Prey", Creative Arts Academy, Bountiful, UT

2015 "Tango alla Piazzolla," Academy of Ballet and Jazz, Tuscaloosa, AL
"Convergence," DANCO II, Philadelphia Dance Company, Philadelphia, PA

- “Schubert Impromptu”, Repertory Dance Theatre, Salt Lake City, UT
 “Movement for Seven,” Master Ballet Academy, Phoenix, UT
 “Dreamscape,” Creative Arts Academy, Bountiful, UT
 “Configured Echoes,” Bunker Dance Center, Las Vegas
 “Leave My Head Alone,” Dance Industry, Dallas, TX
- 2014 “Collage”, Irvine Valley College, Irvine, CA
 “Solstice”, Phoenix Ballet, Phoenix, AZ
 (for the Beijing Academy of Ballet Anniversary Gala)
 “Flood” and “Earthquake”, Luminario Ballet, Los Angeles, CA
 (part of Luminario’s “Trails” ballet)
 “The Empress”, Los Angeles Ballet Academy, Encino, CA
 “Ashes”, Center Stage Performing Arts Academy, Orem, UT
 (for the Dancing Under The Stars Festival)
 “Desert Serenade”, Creative Arts Academy, Bountiful, UT
 “Transmutation”, Dance Industry Performing Arts, Plano, TX
 “Wait Until Your Turn”, Dance Industry Performing Arts, Plano, TX
 “Come In! Movement II”, Bunker Dance Center, Las Vegas, NV
 “Palladio for 15”, Hawkins School of Performing Arts, Folsom, CA
 “Echorus (reset)”, Center Stage Performing Arts, Orem, UT
 (for the McCallum Desert Choreography Festival)
 “Stairway”, Center Stage Performing Arts, Orem, UT
 (for the McCallum Desert Choreography Festival)
- 2013 For COLABO Youth Dance Collective, Chino, CA:
 “Concentric Harmonies” (Commissioned for Celebrate Dance)
 “Echorus”
 “Sunlight”
 “Memories du Futur”
 “Crossroads”
 “The Moment I Said It”
- For Center Stage Performing Arts Center, Salt Lake City, UT:
 “Rachmaninov Concerto”
 “Mozart Piano Concerto”
- 2012 “Solstice” for Long Beach Ballet, Long Beach, CA
 “Untitled: Dance for 12” for Project LAUNCH, Roseville, CA
 “Ave Maria” for San Diego Academy of Ballet
 “Air” for Laguna Dance Theater
- 2011 “Interlude” for *innovate*, NUEVO Dance Concert
 “Palladio” for Backhausdance’s PLATFORM, Irvine, CA
- 2010 “en deux” for *re:define*, NUEVO Dance Concert
 “Nocturne Studies” for the University of Washington Dance Program
- 2009 “Ave Maria” for *reawakening*, NUEVO Dance Concert

- 2008 “White Noise” for South Bay Ballet, Torrance, CA
 “Speak for Yourself” for Ballet East, Austin, TX
 “Spirals” for Tucson Regional Ballet
- 2007 “Configured Echoes” for South Bay Ballet, Torrance, CA
 “For Lola” for Tucson Regional Ballet
 “Nocturne Studies” for Ballet East, Austin, TX
 “Dream’s on Me...” for the Laguna Beach Dance Festival
- 2006 “Tango Passages” for South Bay Ballet, Torrance, CA
 “Untitled Duet” for the Laguna Beach Dance Festival
- 2005 “no es lo que aparece” for Reflections Dance, Washington, DC
- 2004 “Suite Vivaldi” for California Ballet, San Diego, CA
- 2002 “Ballet Re-mixed” for Pennsylvania Ballet’s *Shut-Up & Dance* benefit
- 2001 “Concerto Armonico” for Philadelphia Dance Company II
- 2000 “In a Different Space” for the Philadelphia Dance Company
- 1999 “Solo Study #4” for Philadelphia Dance Company II
- 1998 “Tango Passages” for the University of Utah Ballet Ensemble
- 1997 “Septet Variations” for the Proving Ground Concert, Salt Lake City, UT
- 1996 “Untitled Duet” for Dance Majors Concert, University of Washington
- 1995 “Concerto in A” for Dance Majors Concert, University of Washington
- 1994 “Sacred Heart” for Dance Majors Concert, University of Washington

CHOREOGRAPHY AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- 2016 “Between the Lines” commissioned for the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts funded by the National Endowment for the Arts
- “Between the Lines” invited for New-York Premiere at the BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn! Arts Festival
- “Between the Lines” selected to be featured at the 2016 Democratic National Convention Opening Welcome Event
- “Souvenirs de Movement” selected for the annual Flying Horse Gala at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts

- First Place Ensemble Award for “Movement for Seven” at Youth America Grand Prix Denver Regional
- First Place Ensemble Award for “Dreamscapes” at the American Ballet Competition
- 2015 “Solstice” Invited to the Lodz International Ballet Competition for its European Premiere
- Division II Grand Prize Finalist for “The Empress”
18th Annual McCallum Theatre Choreography Festival
- Top 12 Global Ensemble Award for “The Empress”
International Youth America Grand Prix Competition
- 2014 Selection of “Solstice” to have its world premiere at the 60th anniversary of the Beijing Dance Academy Gala Celebration
- Division II Grand Prize Finalist for “Echorus” and “Stairway”
17th Annual McCallum Theatre Choreography Festival
- 2013 Division II Grand Prize Winner for “Concentric Harmonies” at the 16th Annual McCallum Theatre Choreography Festival
- GMA TV Filipino Channel feature for “Power ng Pinoy” TV Show
- 2012 Honored as one of the Top 100 Filipino Americans in the Category of “Performing and Creative Arts”
- Outstanding Choreographer Award, Youth America Grand Prix
- 2011 Asst. Chor. Patricia Zhou’s solo on ABC’s “Dancing with the Stars”
- Outstanding Choreographer Award, Youth America Grand Prix
- Finalist, Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival, Division II McCallum Theatre for “Jazz – Tango”
- 2009 Finalist, Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival, Division I McCallum Theatre for “Dream’s on Me”
- Selected and performed at the American Regional College Dance Festival for “Nocturne Studies”
- 2008 Finalist, Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival, Division I McCallum Theatre for “Untitled Duet”

- Selected and performed for the Presidential Scholars Gala at the Kennedy Center for “Tango en Pointe”
- 2007 Best Choreography (Pacific Region), National Regional Dance America for “Configured Echoes”
- 2005 Charles S. Bennett Choreography Fund for “Suite Vivaldi”
- 1995 Choreographer’s Award for University of Washington Dance Program
- 1994 Choreographer’s Award for University of Washington Dance Program

PROFESSIONAL DANCE EXPERIENCE

- 2005 – 2006 California Ballet, San Diego, CA
Repertory performed:
“Swan Lake” by Thor Sutowski
“Coppelia” by Maxine Mahon
- 2005 – 2006 National Choreographers Initiative, Irvine, CA
Works performed:
“No Fixed Points” by Ron de Jesus
“Broken” by Gina Patterson
“Subject Forgotten” by Luca Vegetti
“Untitled” by Christopher D’Amboise
- 2002 – 2005 Ballet Pacifica, Irvine, CA
Repertory performed:
“Love Intr-fear” by Dominic Walsh
“Unknown Territory” by Choo San Goh
“im print” by Shaun Hounsell
“Jardin Aux Lilas” by Anthony Tudor
“The Naughty Ones” by Stephen Mills
“The Nutcracker” by Molly Lynch
“In the Ruins” by Rick McCullough
“LIVE” by Sarah Slipper
“We Awake in Mourning” by Robert Sund
“Building Bridges” by Adam Hundt & Molly Lynch
“Blackberry Winter” by Ann Marie D’Angelo
- 1998 – 2002 Philadelphia Dance Company, Philadelphia, PA
Repertory performed:
“Pretty is Skin Deep” by Talley Beatty
“Conversations for 7 Souls” by Gene Hill Sagan
“Echoes” by Milton Myers
“Enemy Behind the Gates” by Christopher Huggins
“Southern Landscape” by Talley Beatty
“Mourner’s Bench” by Talley Beatty
“Elegy” by Gene Hill Sagan
“Joy” by Milton Myers

“Unspoken” by Milton Myers
“Dreamtime” by Elisa Monte
“La Bess” by David Brown
“Tribute” by Dwight Rhoden
“My Science” by Bebe Miller
“Beattyville” by Fred Benjamin
“X-mas Philes” by Daniel Ezralow
“Ode to Ellington” by Ronald K. Brown
“Hand Singing Song” by Jawole Zollar
“Suite Otis” by George Faison

1998 Salt Lake City Olympic Committee
Performed as a soloist in “Contrast, Culture, Courage” at the
Winter Olympics Closing Ceremonies, Nagano, Japan

1996 – 1998 Repertory Dance Theater, Salt Lake City, UT
Repertory performed:
“Dance for 2 Army Blankets” by Shapiro & Smith
“Summit” by David Parsons
“Erosion” by Zvi Gotheiner
“Karyo” by Susan McClain
“Watermark” by Ford Evans
“Liquid Interior” by Margaret Jenkins
“Skylight” by Laura Dean
“Rhythm Plus” by Lucinda Childs
“Passengers” by Viola Farber
“Sine” by Yacov Sharir
“Chairs” by Zvi Gotheiner
“Turf” by Shapiro & Smith
“Separate Journeys” by Lynn Wimmer
“Jukebox” by Bill Evans
“Castor & Pollux” by Elizabeth Waters
“Folksay” by Sophie Maslow

1995 – 1996 Chamber Dance Company, Seattle, WA
Repertory performed:
“Four Brubeck Pieces” by Murray Louis
“Tensile Involvement” by Alwin Nikolais

Spectrum Dance Theater, Seattle, WA
Repertory performed:
“Grusin Suite” by Frank Chavez

1994 – 1996 The Seattle Opera, Seattle, WA
Repertory performed:
“The Pearl Fishers” Corps Dancer for Bizet’s Opera

Leaving Ground/Dance, Seattle, WA

DANCE TRAINING

2006 – Present	Ballet classes with Gisela Genschow, Alaine Haubert, Reid Olsen, Leslie Carrothers, Nader Hamed and Tanya Durbin
2002 – 2005	Ballet classes with Molly Lynch and Gillian Finley
1998 – 2002	Horton Technique with Milton Myers Graham Technique with Patricia Thomas Dunham Technique with Joan Myers Brown and Kim Bears Ballet Technique with Delores Brown Abelson and Lisa Sundstrom, Maqui Manosa and Company Class with Pennsylvania Ballet
1997 – 1998	Ballet for men’s technique with Adriano Welch Ballet partnering with Conrad Ludlow and Adriano Welch
1993 – 1997	University of Washington Dance Program Ballet: Hannah Wiley Modern: Jim Lepore, Rip Parker, and Hector Vega Contact Improvisation: Jim Lepore Jazz: Hector Vega and Jaylene Dunning

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM LEADERSHIP

2017 – Present	Preprofessional Dancer Institute, Founding Artistic Director/Owner Seattle Dance Advance, Founding Artistic Director/Owner
2016- Present	New Century Dance Project Youth Dance Festival, Founding Director New Years Training Camp, Founding Director/Owner
2016 – 2017	Ballet+ (beyond technique) Costa Rica, Founding Director/Owner
2015-Present	Aria Ballet Intensive, Founding Director Ballet+ (beyond technique) Workshops, Founding Director/Owner
2012 – Present	COLABO Youth Dance Collective, Founding Director/Owner
2008-2014	NUEVO School of Contemporary Dance, Founding Director/Owner

TEACHING

2017	Artist-In-Residence Douglas Anderson School of the Arts, Jacksonville, FL National Dance Institute, Santa Fe, NM The Male Dancer Conference, New York, NY Windward School, Los Angeles, CA
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Performing Arts Academy of Marin, Mill Valley, CA

Guest Teaching Artist:

DansArt, Monterrey, MX
Cary Ballet Conservatory, Cary, NC
The Dallas Conservatory, Dallas, TX
New Century Dance Project, Salt Lake City, UT
The Dance Zone, Toronto, CN
Master Ballet Academy, Scottsdale, AZ
The Dance Studio of Fresno, Fresno, CA
Danceworks, Escazu, Costa Rica
Dancemakers Atlanta, Atlanta, GA
The Dance Institute, Austin, TX
Columbia City Jazz, Columbia, SC
Studio Fusion, Huntington Beach, CA
Hawkins School of Performing Arts, Castro, CA
Dance Connection, Scottsdale, AZ
Academy of Ballet and Jazz, Tuscaloosa, AL
Heidi Knight School of Dance, Huntsville, AL
Dancetown, Miami, FL

2016

Artist-In-Residence

Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing & Visual Arts

Guest Teaching Artist:

Philadelphia Dance Company, Philadelphia, PA
The Dance Teacher Summit, Long Beach, CA
Jazz DanceFest, Escazu, Costa Rica
The Directors Cut Ballet Intensive, Austin, TX
Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, Los Angeles, CA
Danceology, San Diego, CA
The Dance Connection, Phoenix, AZ
The Dance Institute, Austin, TX
Touch of Class Dance Studio, Philadelphia, PA
The Southern Strutt, Irmo, South Carolina
Academy of Ballet and Jazz, Tuscaloosa, AL
Dancemakers, Atlanta, GA

2015

Artist-In-Residence

Repertory Dance Theatre, Salt Lake City, UT

Guest Teaching Artist:

Philadelphia Dance Company, Philadelphia, PA
The Dance Teacher Summit, Long Beach, CA
Jazz DanceFest, Escazu, Costa Rica
Danceworks Costa Rica, San Jose, Costa Rica
Academy of Ballet and Jazz, Tuscaloosa, AL
Danceology, San Diego, CA
Master Ballet Academy, Phoenix, AZ
Columbia City Jazz, Columbia, SC
New World School of the Arts, Miami, FL

STARS Dance Company, Miami, FL
Bunker Dance Center, Las Vegas, NV
The Dance Studio of Fresno, Fresno, CA
The Southern Strutt, Irmo, SC
Creative Arts Academy, Bountiful, UT

- 2014 - 15 Artist-In-Residence:
 Center Stage Performing Arts, Orem, UT
 Dance Industry Performing Arts Center, Plano, TX
- 2012 – Present 24 Seven Dance Convention Principal Ballet Faculty
- 2014 Principal Instructor: NUEVO School of Contemporary Dance, Chino, CA
 Ballet Intensive Lead Faculty:
 Denise Wall's Dance Energy, Virginia Beach, VA
 Michelle Latimer Dance Academy, Greenwood Village, CO
 The Southern Strutt, Irmo, SC
 Columbia City Jazz, Columbia, SC
 Guest Teaching Artist:
 BODYTRAFFIC, Los Angeles, CA
 University of California Irvine, Irvine, CA
 Northern California Dance Conservatory, Roseville, CA
 Master Ballet Academy, Scottsdale, AZ
 Bunker Dance Center, Las Vegas, NV
 The Rock Center for Dance, Las Vegas, CA
 Hawkins School of Performing Arts, Folsom, CA
 The Southern Strutt, Irmo, SC
 Michelle Latimer Dance,
 Columbia City Jazz, Columbia, SC
 Murrieta Dance Project, Murrieta, CA
 Temecula Dance Company, Temecula, CA
 Creative Arts Academy, Bountiful, UT
 The Dance Awards, Las Vegas, Nevada
 Lead Outreach Master Teacher for High Schools and Studios
 McCallum Theatre Choreography Festival, Palm Desert, CA
- 2013 Principal Instructor:
 NUEVO School of Contemporary Dance
 Guest Master Instructor for:
 Be Discovered, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
 Center Stage Performing Arts Center, Salt Lake City, UT
 Principal Instructor for:
 “A Dancer's Life: The Summer Intensive Alternative”
- 2012 Guest Instructor (Ballet, Modern & Contemporary Technique):
 Northern California Dance Conservatory
 Be Discovered, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
 San Diego Academy of Ballet
 Founder and Principal Instructor for:

“A Dancer’s Life: The Summer Intensive Alternative”

Summer 2011	Contemporary and Modern Technique for: California Dance Theater Summer Intensive Long Beach Ballet Summer Intensive Laguna Dance Theater Summer Intensive
2007 – 2011	Ballet Instructor, Coastal Dance Rage Convention North American Tour
2003 – 2005	Adjunct faculty for Orange County High School for the Arts
2002 – 2010	Guest instructor for: SUNY Binghamton Summer Dance Institute Extravadanza, Montreal, Canada West Coast Dance Academy Lula Washington Dance Company & School California Ballet Conservatory Ballet Pacifica Summer Intensive Festival Ballet Tucson Regional Ballet
2002 – 2008	Ballet Program Director and Instructor, Dance Precisions, Yorba Linda, CA
1998 – 2002	Master class at The Philadelphia School of Dance Arts and instructor representing The Philadelphia Dance Company for numerous colleges and universities during national and international tours
1996 – 1998	Faculty and company class Instructor for Repertory Dance Theater’s Professional Company and Community School

PRESENTATIONS

2017	Three-Part Workshop Series on “ <i>Structuring Ballet, Stretching, and Strength Training in a Uniquely Integrated Method for both Competitive and Conservatory-Based Curriculums</i> ” Dance Teacher Summit, Long Beach, CA
2016	<i>From the Judges Point of View: Preparing for Technical Critique of Competition Performances</i> Dance Teacher Summit, Long Beach, CA
2015	<i>Ballet+ Integrative Athletic Technique Training Methods Fostering Appreciation for Ballet in Competitive Dancers</i> Dance Teacher Summit. Long Beach, CA

CONSULTING

- 2016 - 2017 Francisco Gella Dance Works
 Ballet Program Assessment and Training, Performing Arts Academy of
 Marin, Mill Valley, CA
- 2014 Francisco Gella Dance Works.
 Ballet Program Assessment, The Southern Strutt, Irmo, SC
 College Counseling and Coaching for Aspiring Professional Dancers

ADJUDICATION

- 2012 - Present Lead Adjudicator, 24 Seven Dance Convention

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 1984 – 1992 Competitive Gymnastics
 Coached by Mircea Badulescu, UCSB High School Extension Program;
 Mark Russo, Head Coach, University of Washington Gymnastics Club; and
 Eric Gelfand, Cascade Elite Gymnastics