

KERRY N McMURDO / ARTILLERY PERFORMANCE

NEW ZEALAND / ICELAND / EUROPE

ART

HEALING

GLOBAL JUSTICE



PERSONAL DETAILS

Birth-Date 17.02.1976 / New Zealand
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Kerryn's work traverses the arts & creative industries, educational and institutional sectors, communications, the healing arts and body therapies, spiritual and self-development industries, as well as socio-political activism supporting animal rights and welfare, human rights and planetary care.

ART

Kerryn McMurdo is a New Zealander currently based in Iceland. Since Kerryn started her contemporary dance training in 1997 graduating with a degree in 2000, Kerryn has developed her extensive career and worked internationally and professionally as a dance artist and performer for 20 years; in the fields of contemporary dance, performance art, choreography, film and video-art, photography, new media, installation, theatre, writing and education. Kerryn's artistic pseudonym **Artillery Performance** www.artilleryperformance.weebly.com led her to create numerous solos and improvisations in which she has performed across New Zealand and in Europe and Iceland.

As a movement artist, Kerryn is interested in the kinaesthetic tensions and interstitial depth within concepts; embracing the body as the primary site for communication and expression of complex vocabularies, forms and presences. Her work explores and plays with notions of subversion, transgression, liminality, body politics, cultural identity, hybridity, meaning, theatrical abstraction and projection, empathy and criticality. Kerryn is an avid improviser and performs with presence and awareness.

Kerryn is a mentor and supporter for emerging dancers and choreographers. From 2011-2014 Kerryn held a 0.6 tenured position and trained dance students at Unitec New Zealand on the contemporary dance degree program. She taught improvisation, choreography, performance techniques and practice, interdisciplinary collaboration, muscle and bone and Body Weather (training class and improvisations), supervised student choreographies and guest choreographers work.

As a dancer, Kerryn collaborated and performed with numerous independents as well as with renowned companies **Touch Compass NZ** and **MAU dance company/Lemi Ponifasio**.

From 2015-2020, Kerryn was invited to co-direct Nes Artist Residency/Listamiðstöð www.neslist.is (a member of the Baltic-Nordic Network of Remote Art and Residency Centres), where she developed, facilitated artists, and managed the ongoing international, inter-disciplinary and multi-generational artist-in-residence program.

Kerryn is currently practicing writing and participates in **London Writers Salon** <https://londonwriterssalon.com/> community to write towards a novel, a TED Talk and short articles for online publishing. Kerryn continues her movement practice through Hatha Yoga classes and is working towards facilitating improvisation and movement training classes in the future in Reykjavík.

EDUCATION and TRAINING

- 2000** Bachelor of Performing and Screen Arts (BPSA) major in Contemporary Dance. School of Performing & Screen Arts, Unitec, Auckland, NZ
- 1997** Certificate in Contemporary Dance. Wellington Performing Arts Centre, NZ
- 1996** Trained in and practiced Ashtanga Yoga, Wellington, NZ.
- 1996-94** Studied World Religions, European Studies, Level 1 Italian language, Education studies. Victoria University of Wellington, NZ.
- 1993** Completed High School and University level entrance exam.

FREE-LANCE PERFORMANCE CAREER HIGHLIGHTS 2000 - 2020

COMPANIES:

TOUCH COMPASS DANCE COMPANY TRUST 2008 – 2012

- **Performed and led workshops** in New Zealand and Australian dance and disability Festivals and theatres. *Choreographers* Carol Brown, Pedro Ilgenfritz.
- **Company workshops with choreographers** Marc Brew (UK), Stephanie Skura (USA), Jeremy Nelson (NZ/USA).

VOSPERTRON COMPANY 2010

- *Corporate trade-launch performance for Volkswagen*, New Delhi, India.

MAU / LEMI PONIFASIO 2000 – 2008

- **Requiem performed in New Zealand, USA, Europe:** tours at numerous international theatre Festivals in the Lincoln Center (New York), Southbank Centre (London), Halle E – Museums Quartier (Vienna), Royal Flemish Theatre (KVS), Brussels, ASB Theatre, Auckland, NZ.
- **Boneflute Ivi Ivi** - Sky City Theatre, Auckland, NZ (*World Premiere*)

SOIT COMPANY (Belgium) with FIDGET CO (NZ). 2008

- **Settlement** performance directed by Hans van den Broeck & Anuschka Von Oppen. Performed in Wellington, NZ.

GREEN ROOM PRODUCTIONS 2003 - 2004

- **Hotel Evening Live Entertainment** – Band singer for resident Hotel entertainment band, and Magicians' Assistant, New Akao Hotel, Atami, Japan.

GUY RYAN DANCE COMPANY 2001 - 2002

- **Fracture / White Noise** performed at numerous dance and theatre festivals in New Zealand.



INDEPENDENT CHOREOGRAPHERS & DIRECTORS:

RIANNE WHITE (Dir.) (SCOTLAND) 2017

- **Gravamen** (Short film) Feature performance role/collaboration.

FLORIAN HABICHT (Dir.) (NZ) 2004 – 2008

- **Rubbings From A Live Man** (Documentary film). Feature performance role. New Zealand International Film Festival.
- **Peppermint Breath** (42 second short). Feature performance role. International Vodka 42 below Directors competition.
- **Woodenhead** (Feature film) Feature dancer. International Film Festivals in NZ, Australia, Spain, USA.

TE TOKI HARURU / CHARLES KORONEHO 2002 – 2013 *Life-long mentor & collaborator*

- **Artist In Residence (AIR)** Initiative development and Choreographic workshops and performance with Charles Koroneho. Unitec Te Noho Kotahitanga Marae, Auckland, NZ
- **Intercultural and Indigenous Choreographic LAB** with Australian indigenous dance company **Marru Gekku**. Sydney, Australia.
- **Te Pou Rahui – Performance Technique and Body Weather training**. Auckland NZ.
- **Te Pou Rahui – Intercultural Performance Workshop**. Hoani Waititi Marae, Auckland, NZ

CAROL BROWN / PHIL DADSON 2010

- **Urban Devas** sound and dance performance: site-specific and gallery installation performed at national arts festivals in New Zealand.

KISS THE GROUND PRODUCTIONS 2008 – 2009

- **New Years Eve Celebrations** - Solo feature performer – Diamond Woman *Las Vegas Night*, Group dance *The Enchanted Garden*, at the Sky City Tower, Auckland, NZ

2003 – 2010 collaborated and performed as a free-lance dancer for numerous independent New Zealand choreographers and performance directors in theatres, galleries, corporate events, festivals, music videos, TV advertisements.

ARTILLERY PERFORMANCE: Highlights from CREATIONS

WHILE IM STILL HERE 2017 – 2019

. Solo improvised dance performance and environmental activist video installation.

- **NES Artist Residency**, Skagaströnd and at **The Factory** international exhibition space, Djúpavík, Westfjörds, Iceland.

CHANGES 2016

- Music video/short dance film for Slovakian pop band. Solo performance Dir. By Claire Paugam (France/Iceland). On-location at NES Artist Residency, Skagaströnd.

FIISK KONA and PROPHECIES OF ÞORDÍS 2014 *Artist In Residence*

- Solo performance as an artist-in-residence at NES Artist Residency, Skagaströnd, Iceland.

FROM HIS RIB 2013 *Sabbatical research development and performance*

- Solo performance, at the Basement Theatre, Auckland, NZ. Invited guest in the *Champagne & Limousines Solos* show.

TRAUMA, AGENCY, NEW VISION 2013 *Commissioned work & research*

- Choreographed Site-specific dance performance with Seekers Dance Collective. Commissioned for the Auckland Arts Festival, Auckland NZ.

THE SORTING HOUSE 2009 *Commissioned work*

- Solo performance launching the opening of *Tempo Dance Festival NZ*. at Basement Theatre, Auckland, NZ.

SKELETAL PRECIPICE 2003 – 2004 *Seminal solo performance*

- Solo performance in various theatres and for dance Festivals throughout New Zealand.

*** Various student group choreographies and solos created from 1997-2000.*



Trauma, Agency, New Vision 2013. NZ.

GROUP EXHIBITION AND INSTALLATION SHOWS

INVASION and ROTISSERIE GROUP EXHIBITION SHOWS 2005 - 2004

- *Shibuya Crossing* and *Katori Jinja* video installations. Moving Image Centre and St Paul Street Gallery, Auckland, NZ

SOLITON GROUP SHOW AND PUBLIC LIVE ART EVENT 2003

- *Adopt* 3 - screen Video projection at St James Regent Theatre, Auckland, NZ

ROTISSERIE GROUP SHOW 2002

- *What Is Seen, What Is Unseen, What Is To Be Revealed* solo performance at Lopdell House Gallery, Auckland, NZ

TEACHING, TRAINING & CREATIVE MENTORSHIP:

UNITEC PERFORMING & SCREEN ARTS DEPT. AUCKLAND, NZ. 2010 – 2014

- Invited staff member and then became core staff member on the contemporary dance training and choreography degree program. **Awarded best teacher 2013**

INDEPENDANCE TRAINING PROGRAM 2007 – 2014 **Teacher and Coordinator**

- Direct, timetable/coordinate professional weekly dance training classes and workshops, for the professional freelance contemporary dance & performance community, Auckland, NZ
<http://www.independancenz.org/>

THE ACTORS PROGRAM 2013

- Morning **Muscle & bone training classes** for independent acting training school at The Auckland Performing Arts Center, NZ.

AUCKLAND GIRLS GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2001 - 2002

- Taught the **high school dance curriculum** to Years /Levels 9, 10, and 12 students.

CHOREOGRAPHIC MENTOR 2001 – 2010

- Invited **mentor** for many emerging dancers and choreographers projects in New Zealand.



Muscle and bone community training class 2017. NZ

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / ATELIER / WORKSHOPS:

IMPULSTANZ VIENNA INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL 2014 – 2018

- Accepted participant for **Field Research projects** with international choreographers Maria.F.Scaroni (2018), Thomas Hauert and Meg Stuart/Damaged Goods (2014).
- **Creative dance workshops** participant with Mårten Spångberg (2014/16), Keith Hennessy (2016), Miguel Gutierrez and Doris Uhlich (2014).

LE BALLET C DE LA B : Co-LAB choreographic research 2016 - 2017

- Accepted participant for choreographers **Ido Batash** (2017) and **Lisi Estaras** (2016). Ghent, Belgium.

GAGA BARCELONA INTENSIVE 2014

- Accepted participant for **GAGA** methods and training workshop led by Batsheva Dance Company members. Barcelona, Spain.

NES ARTIST RESIDENCY 2014

- 3 month choreographic and performance residency at **NES Artist Residency**, Skagaströnd, Iceland.

LA POCHA NOSTRA / GUILLERMO GOMEZ-PENA 2012

- Accepted participant for **Live Art LAB/International Summer School** with members from La Pocha Nostra Troupe: Guillermo Gomez-Pena, Dani d'Emilia, Saul Garcia Lopez, Erica Mott. Oaxaca, Mexico.



Le ballet C de La B atelier 2016. Belgium.

OTHER RELATED ARTISTIC WORK EXPERIENCE:

PROOF-READER 2020 – 2021

- For Andra Watkins (International author and New York Times bestselling novelist). Proof-read 1st and 2nd draft of her latest novel. <https://andrawatkins.com/>

DIALOGUES 2021

- Participant in public online speaking event discussing various socio-political topics and content with an international community of speakers and contributors. <https://dialogues.one/about/> and <https://solidialogues.one/about/>

NES ARTIST RESIDENCY/LISTAMÍÐSTÖÐ CO-DIRECTOR 2015 – 2020

- Co-director of international and interdisciplinary Nes Artist Residency in Skagaströnd, Iceland. www.neslist.is

NEW ZEALAND DANCE FESTIVAL TRUST / TEMPO DANCE FESTIVAL 2012 - 2016

- Trust Board member and advocate.

SKILLS DEVELOPED IN THE FIELD OF ARTS, DANCE & PERFORMANCE:

Collaboration, leadership, communications, problem-solving, improvisation, discipline and work ethic, commitment, creativity, fun, facilitation, people management, counseling, peer support, administrative duties (proposal funding applications, FB and Insta posts, Mailchimp emails, media interviews, writing support letters, assessments), curating exhibitions and open studios, dialoguing with artists creatively, supervising creative projects, visioning ideas, creative stamina & flexibility, empathy, physicality, radical thinking and pushing boundaries.

HEALING

The Healing arts and technologies are an extension of Kerryn's body, performance and spiritual practices and self-development training. Artistic expression and dance training can burn an artist out, and as an artist, one must recognize shifting pathways to maintain a vital connection to the body that yields towards longevity and well-being for movement practice. Kerryn is naturally attuned to the areas of energy healing, and intuitive spiritual readings and counseling, and is currently learning, studying and practicing this for people in person as well as remotely.

Consciousness studies and spiritual evolution, self-development and transformation align with healing arts, and Kerryn has undertaken many Master classes, courses and workshops online (due to Covid), to enhance her knowledge and learning in these areas also.



Courses/Study in Spiritual Technologies and Self-Development:

- Completed Certificates in **Reiki Levels 1-2** including **Animal Reiki** certified, with Lisa Powers - Coursera online Certificate Training. 2020.
- Completed **Life Visioning, Affirmative Prayer** Master classes and Programs with Dr.Rev.Michael Bernard Beckwith through MindValley online program. 2020.
- Completed **Unblock Your Abundance** Master class and Program with Christie Marie Sheldon, MindValley online program. 2019.
- Practice **Meditation techniques** with Dr.Rev Michael Bernard Beckwith, Mindfulness Meditation, and other techniques. 2019 – ongoing.
- Studying basic **quantum physics theory** - the science to support the realm of consciousness, meditation, manifestation, sub-conscious patterning, ancestral de-coding & beliefs, epigenetics, energy healing and the nature of reality. 2020 – ongoing.
- Completed **Financial Literacy Course** 5 week course with Þóra Valný Yngvadóttir. 2021.
- Completed **Tony Robbins New World New You** 5-Day online Challenge. 2021.
- Completed **Out Of The Box: the Brand Called You** 5 Day online Challenge with Rúna Magnúsdóttir. 2021.

SKILLS NURTURED IN THE FIELDS OF HEALING & SELF DEVELOPMENT:

Empathy, listening, communications, awareness, mindfulness, overcoming fear, visioning future goals and dreams, manifestation, intuition, focus, attention, balance in mind/body/soul, discipline, consciousness development, meditation practice, breath-work, process-oriented, healing awareness and methods, healthy boundaries.

GLOBAL JUSTICE

A new development in Kerryn's creative life.

Kerryn supports global communities and organizations that aim to benefit the planet and its inhabitants, moving towards a better society and lifestyle – supporting animal rights and welfare, human rights welfare, women's rights, ending systemic racism, building environmental awareness and action and initiating peace.

Initiatives and organizations Kerryn is currently affiliated with:

- *Four Paws* animal rights welfare group: signing online petitions and donator
- *Rauði krossinn Ísland Sjálfböðaliði / Red Cross Iceland Volunteer*: assisted Syrian refugee family in Blönduós, Iceland 2019-2020.
- *PETA* animal rights welfare group: signing online petitions and donator.
- *Soi Dog Foundation*: signing online petitions and donator.
- *Migrant support groups (Italy)*: helping migrants integrate into society.
- *AVAAZ* online petition organization: signing online petitions and donator.

Kerryn is currently studying an online Certificate course to enhance her knowledge for international relations: ***Global Diplomacy: The United Nations in the World*** via Coursera and the University of London.



Values:

As a creative person emerging from an extensive 20 year dance, performance and teaching career, Kerryn is aware that her dance career is a point of departure - where movement still exists in her life, yet is expanding and shifting into new career territories and pathways. As she is moving through this transition, where dance is no longer the limelight, yet is a side-light shining into new spaces for her development, the **working values** Kerryn promotes are (in no particular order):

Community, Integrity, Self value and respect, Inclusivity, Awareness, Clear communications, Valuing the Process, Collaboration, Independent thinking and action, Transparency, Diplomacy,

Dreams – Visioning – Goals – Outcomes.

Fun, Passion for what you do, Creative drive and uniqueness.