

Melanie Aceto is a modern dancer, choreographer and educator. Her creative interests are in interdisciplinary solo and large group works. Recent projects include the creation of *Cloud*, a work for six dancers and 3,000 square feet of plastic made in collaboration with architect/designer Michael Rogers, *Liaison*, a new solo for piano and dancer made in collaboration with composer Megan Beugger, and *In To Selves* a piece for voice and dancer with Turkish composer Esin Gunduz. Her work has been performed internationally in Toronto, Guatemala and Germany and nationally at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, in Las Vegas, Virginia, Kentucky, New Jersey, Florida, Pennsylvania, in Ohio as part of the Heidelberg New Music Festival and numerous venues in Rochester and Buffalo, NY. New York City performances include the Studio Museum in Harlem, REVERB dance festival (Ailey CitigroupTheater), Cool NY and D.U.M.B.O Dance Festivals (John Ryan Theater), and the American Dance Guild (Ailey CitigroupTheater).

Melanie's research interests include investigating models for teaching dance composition and modern technique and creating resources for both. Current projects include Choreographic Lineage, a web-based resource presenting the lineage of choreographers and dance artists in modern dance. Melanie earned her Master of Fine Arts degree in dance from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and is currently an Associate Professor at the University at Buffalo teaching all levels of modern technique, improvisation and choreography.