Melanie Aceto, MFA

Director of Undergraduate Dance

Associate Professor

MFA, New York University Tisch School of the Arts

Bio

**Melanie Aceto** is a dancer, choreographer, educator and researcher whose creative interests are in interdisciplinary solo and large group works. Melanie’s choreography has been performed internationally in Toronto, Guatemala City, Guatemala, and Bogotá, Colombia, nationally at Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival and at venues in Philadelphia, North Carolina, Atlanta, Virginia, Kentucky, and in New York City at The Kitchen, the Studio Museum in Harlem, Ailey CitigroupTheater, The Duplex Cabaret and John Ryan Theater, among others, and in Buffalo, NY at venues including the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Burchfield Penney Art Center. She regularly collaborates with composers, designers and poets presenting work in non-dance venues including silos, warehouses, moving barges, museums, and store front windows, among others. Notable works include *Cloud*, a piece conceived and created in collaboration with architect/designer Michael J. Rogers, for six dancers using over 3,000 square feet of plastic to create a fluid and fluctuating environment, and *Liaison*, a work for piano and dancer conceived by and made in collaboration with composer Megan Beugger.

Melanie’s research interests include investigating models for teaching dance composition and modern technique and creating resources for both. Her work has been published in the Journal of Dance Education and has been presented at National Dance Education Organization conferences and the joint Society for Dance History Scholars/Congress on Research in Dance conferences. Current projects include Choreographic Lineage, a web-based resource presenting the lineage of dance artists [www.choreographiclineage.buffalo.edu](http://www.choreographiclineage.buffalo.edu) and the Digital Dance Access working group <https://adhc.lib.ua.edu/danceprogress/> At UB Melanie teaches all levels of modern technique, improvisation, both graduate and undergraduate dance composition, and choreographs regularly for departmental concerts.

Current Research:

Choreographic Works:

Please visit melanieaceto.com

Projects:

Choreographic Lineage: choreographiclineage.buffalo.edu **(can you make this a link?)**

Choreographic Lineage is an interactive, web-based genealogical network illustrating connections between dance artists, their teachers, their students, their collaborators and people who they were influenced by. Choreographic Lineage is intended as a global resource for investigating artistic influences, career paths, choreographic connections, and complex and obscure relationships.

Digital Dance Access Project: <https://adhc.lib.ua.edu/danceprogress/>

Publications:

*Developing the Dance Artist in Technique Class: The Alteration Task.* Journal of Dance Education. (12)1: 14-20. 2012.

Conference Presentations:

Women in Dance Leadership Conference, Philadelphia, PA

*Envisioning Digital Dance Spaces for Diversity and Inclusion* panel presentation. October 2019

Dancing Digitally 3-Day Symposium, University of Alabama, Birmingham, AL

Invited participant among 18 leaders in the field of dance including scholars, educators, choreographers, archivists and filmmakers. May 2019

National Dance Education Organization Conference, Washington, DC  
Presented the *Choreographic Lineage* project. November 2016

Digital Scholarship Week, University at Buffalo

Presented the *Choreographic Lineage* project. February 2016

Hard Coded Humanities Conference, University of Rochester.

Presented the *Choreographic Lineage* project. April 2016

National Dance Education Organization Conference, Chicago, IL  
Presented the *Choreographic Lineage* project. November 2015

Congress on Research in Dance/Society for Dance History Scholars joint conference, Iowa City, Iowa  
Presented the *Choreographic Lineage* project. November 2014