**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 solo for piano and dancer made in collaboration with composer Megan Beugger, and *In To Selves*, a piece for voice and dance with Turkish composer Esin Gunduz. Melanie’s 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 including the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Burchfield Penney Arts Center. New York City performances include the MATA Festival (The Kitchen), 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. Her research 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. Melanie also has a passion for choreographic preservation. Commissioned by the Dance Heritage Coalition, she completed a scholarly assessment of the New York based Lar Lubovitch Dance Company detailing the current state of their archive. Current projects include Choreographic Lineage, an interactive web-based resource presenting the lineage of dance artists (www.choreographiclineage.buffalo.edu).

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. **www.melanieaceto.com**