

Originally from California, Michelle Thompson Ulerich trained at San Francisco Ballet for nine years. She also received training from the Kirov Academy of Ballet, American Ballet Theater, and Tisch School of the Arts. She moved to Texas and joined Ballet Austin in 2001. During her 14 years with Ballet Austin, she performed in works by Stephen Mills, Balanchine, Tharp, Ulysses Dove, Nelly van Bommel, KT Nelson, James Gregg, Thang Dao, Greg Dolbashian, Jimmy Orrante, Amy Seiwert, Gina Patterson, Thaddeus Davis, and Sidra Bell. Also during her time in Austin she completed a Dance and Humanities degree from St. Edward's University. Columbia Ballet Collaborative, Ballet Austin, Ballet Spartanburg, Blanton Museum, Motion Dance Theater, SUNY Purchase, Ballet Hartford, The Hartt School, The Moving Beauty Series, and Spark Movement Collective have commissioned Michelle for choreography. She was chosen as the Women's Choreography Project winner by Avant Chamber Ballet in Dallas, and has recently shown works for Arts On Site, Translate, NACHMO, Theorist Fest, and The Dance Collective. Michelle's Illusory Impressions collaboration and co-directorship with composer Catherine Davis was given an award by the Austin Critics' Table for excellence in a Site-Specific work as well as Robert Faires' Top 10 Classical Music/Dance Treasures of 2016. She is currently an adjunct professor at SUNY Purchase, teaches with the NYC Yoga Project, and subs at Ailey Extension, Peridance, Ballet Arts, and NYC Community Ballet. Michelle has taught at dance schools in the Bay Area, Austin, San Antonio, and New Jersey. She performs in New York with XAOC Contemporary Ballet and Spark Movement Collective. She lives in Manhattan with her husband and two children.