

SINCLAIR EMOGHENE

Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance

The University of Texas at Austin

RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research investigates the intersections of dance, technology, and cultural memory, focusing on how embodied knowledge is archived, transmitted, and reactivated through digital, material, and affective systems. I explore performance as a site of epistemological inquiry. Central to my work are projects such as **Global Movement Research (GMR)** and **The Thinking Archive**, which examine the transformation of archival practice through artificial embodied intelligence (AEI), motion capture, and ethical design. My broader interests include digital humanities, decolonial methodologies, AI and embodiment, cross-cultural movement analysis, and the creation of interactive archives that reconceive preservation as participation.

EDUCATION

2016

Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Dance

University of Maryland, College Park

Thesis: *Nyam Chiem – Reconstructing and Performing Nightmare: A Dance Research in Performance of Sleep Paralysis*

2007

Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Theatre Arts

Federal University of Benin, Nigeria

Thesis: *Contemporary Nigerian Dance Creation*

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

2024-

Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance

Tenure-Track

The University of Texas at Austin

2019-24

Assistant Professor of Dance and Choreography

Tenure-Track

Virginia Commonwealth University

PUBLICATIONS

2028

IN PRESS

Global Movement Research (GMR): Dance Technology and Process Documentation

Author

Routledge Taylor & Francis, London

2026

IN PROGRESS

The Sensorium Project: Affective Computation and Embodied Feedback in Performance

Researcher & Principal Investigator

The University of Texas at Austin

2023

Dancing in the World: Revealing Cultural Confluences

Co-author with Dr. Kathleen Spanos

Routledge, London

viii-139 pages. Foundational research establishing innovative frameworks and methods for cross-cultural dance analysis.

CREATIVE LABS

2025

IN PROGRESS

The Sensorium Project - Integrated Lab

Creator, Lead Researcher & Choreographer

The University of Texas at Austin

First full-scale performance experiment integrating soft-robotic fluidic sensors with live choreography. Cross-

disciplinary collaboration with engineering, media design, and projection mapping.

2024

Global Movement Research (GMR) Lab - Phase II

Principal Investigator & Lab Director

The University of Texas at Austin

Advanced research on Artificial Embodied Intelligence (AEI) and multimodal data fusion through motion capture and haptic visualization.

2023

Global Movement Research (GMR) Lab - Phase I

Principal Investigator & Lab Director

Virginia Commonwealth University

Data capture, annotation, and experimental documentation of African and diasporic dance forms.

SELECTED CHOREOGRAPHY — STAGE

2025

Me Duniya Part I

Choreographer & Principal Investigator

Dance Repertory Theater, UT Austin

Performance and engineering collaboration with Dr. Lillian Chin, Cockrell School of Engineering

2020

Kaleidoscope of Tuts

Choreographer

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Black History Month – Millennium Stage, Washington D.C.

2017

Peace Ball

Dancer & Choreographer

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Performed alongside Solange, Esperanza Spalding, Angela Davis, Danny Glover

2016

Nyam Chiem - Reconstructing and Performing Nightmare

Dancer & Choreographer

The Clarice, University of Maryland

MFA Thesis Performance

SELECTED CHOREOGRAPHY — FILM

2026

AWARD WINNER

Ten Poem Project

Choreographer, Director & Writer

The University of Texas at Austin

Winner: Canada Short Film Best Films Award and
multiple international festival selections

2011

I'll Take My Chances - Feature Film

Lead Choreographer

The Royal Art Academy, Lagos, Nigeria

First feature-length dance film in Nigeria (Nollywood) – Box office critically acclaimed

SELECTED GRANTS

2025

The Ten Poem Project — \$9,845

College of Fine Arts Creative Research Grant, UT Austin

2022

Living Archive Research — \$9,883

Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Fund, VCU

2019

FIRST DANCE ARTIST

Facets of Esoterics — \$10,000

The REACH at The John F. Kennedy Center

First dance artist selected for The Office Hours Award

AWARDS & HONORS

2024

Faculty Fellowship

Theatre and Dance Chair Fellowship, UT Austin

2016

NextLOOK Alumni Award

University of Maryland Distinguished Award

2015

International Teaching Fellowship

University of Maryland

2013

Dean Fellowship

University of Maryland

TEACHING

University of Texas at Austin (2024-Present)

Dance History I (TD 317M) — **New Course Development**

Choreography II (TD 332N) — **New Course Development**

Advanced Contemporary Dance (TD 322E)

Projects in Dance Performance and Repertory (TD 232P/332P)

Virginia Commonwealth University (2019-2024)

Dance in World Cultures (DANC 313) — **New Course Development**

Composition (DANC 206) — **New Course Development**

West African Dance (DANC 191)

Modern Dance II, III, IV (DANC 201, 301, 401)

Dance History II (DANC 104)

SELECTED SERVICE

Service to the Field

Book Editor, **Shaping Southern Shifts: Provocations in/through Laban Bartenieff Movement Studies**, ESI Publications, South Africa (2024-)

Curator, DanceFilmmaking.com – International Dance Film Platform (2023-)

University Service

Community Engagement Committee, UT Austin (2024-)

DEI Committee, School of the Arts, VCU (2020-2024)

Dance History & Theory Curriculum Committee, VCU (2019-2020)

American College Dance Association – Faculty Judge & Masterclass Instructor

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2025-

StepMate Dance Outfit

Director & Founder

Austin, Texas

Dance company and mobile platform for dance education, creative economy, and wellness innovation

2010-24

Sinclair Dance / WXYZ Art Factory

Director & Founder

Benin City, Nigeria & Richmond, Virginia

Multidisciplinary performance company integrating dance, theatre, and visual arts

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Dance Studies Association (DSA) — 2019–present

National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) — 2014–present

International Dance Council (CID), UNESCO

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