Universidad de las Américas, Puebla

Ex Hacienda Sta. Catarina Martir, 72810

Puebla, México

Dear YeaJean Choi and members of the Search Commitee,

 I am pleased to submit my application for the position of partial time faculty in the dance program of the Universidad De Las Américas Puebla. My name is Eder de Jesús Arrasquito Barrios and I hold a B.F.A in dance from Universidad De las Américas Puebla, Mexico. Currently, I am a professional freelancer dancer, mover, acrobat, tricker and contemporary circus artist.

 You have asked that applicants discuss their pedagogical and artistic interests/frames of reference in cover letter. My artistic preparation include studies in concert dance forms (post-modern, Horton, and release techniques) supported by studies in Extreme Martial Arts, Capoeira, Circus and Contact Improvisation. As a result, I approach teaching dance technique through a mixture and combination of disciplines, using progression as a tool to reach and create an expressive body. For me, it´s important to include socio-cultural contexts that support and help students to understand that dance is a way to change, configure and reconfigure our society and our studies, skills and ways that we perceive life.

 My main teaching in dance is the direct link between teaching and learning. That is why the learning-teaching space will always be a place where hegemony is abhorred, understanding this as an exclusion to the supremacy and the hierarchy of disciplines and thoughts. The environment that I seek to generate in my teaching is a safe space for experimentation, empathy with others and security. This is achieved thanks to the use of improvisation, contact improvisation and urban languages ​​of movement. This, creates a cognition and union between knowledge and movement, this helps the students to feel creative freedom when not having a rigorous dance technique.

 Following my B.F.A in dance from Universidad De Las Américas Puebla, I obtained certification in Circus in Querétaro, Mexico. This circus certification includes aerial, Chinese pole and acrobatic partnering work certification.

 My life within dance and movement began within urban dance "breakdance and parkour". In order to then enter extreme martial arts (tricking). During his university life he has participated with artists such as Lisa Kusanagi, Julius Brewster Cotton, Ray Schwartz, Shanon Mockley, Mayra Morales, Angel Arámbula, Jordan Fuch and YeaJean Choi, among others. He has participated for 3 consecutive years in the angelopolitan dance festival with the So Def Nation collective. During the closing of the 15th season of the contemporary dance company CCU BUAP, Suspiros que unen (2016) presented a piece entitled "Con unos cuantos chiles y una pizca de sabor " and the play "Fragmentos de memoria" by So def Nation, piece which was one of those selected within the Creators Poblanos call, within the framework of the fifth edition of the Festival Angelopolitano de danza 2016.

He has also collaborated in different groups and performances with national and international companies. As is «Skandalisi» (Netherlands) with the work “as long as it talkes” presented at FIDCDMX. He recently collaborated as a co-creator of the piece "Acuerdos Temporales" with the company Proyecto Segundo Piso, this piece was a finalist in the VII TJ night 4x4 choreography contest held in Tijuana in 2019. Most recently he attended the WDAA (world dance alliance Americas) held in El Paso, Texas participating as a dancer in two pieces. He attended the TDIF (Texas Dance improvisation Festival) with the piece the Max in conjunction with UDLAP students.

 I am pleased to submit materials in application for a faculty position within your program. I believe my multidisciplinary profile in dance education and teaching speak the current innovation on dance world and I’m confident that my national and international experience as a performer add an important and innovative perspectives to the dance program at the Universidad De Las Américas Puebla. Please do not hesitate to contact me for additional information or materials that would be helpful to the committee´s review of my credencials and skills. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Honestly,

Eder Arrasquito Barrios, B.F.A

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