

OLIVIA CORSON

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EDUCATION

Masters in Expressive Arts, Holy Names College, Oakland, California, 1994; Master's project was a thesis on Body Tales work
Post-graduate studies in Dance, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, 1978
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance, Ohio State University, 1975
Undergraduate study in Theater and Liberal Arts, Yale University, 1971-1972

BACKGROUND

Corson is the originator and head teacher of Body Tales®, Somatic Story Training, which integrates intuitive movement and personal story for creative expression, communication and healing. For 20 years she has taught Body Tales extensively: class series, day-long and weekend workshops, 5-day to 2-week residential retreats, and Body Tales Teacher Trainings. She has taught locally in the SF Bay Area, nationally and abroad in colleges, conferences, retreat centers, and independently. From 1974-1990, while developing the Body Tales practice, Corson taught modern and jazz dance technique, choreography, movement for theater, improvisation, composition, expressive and creative movement, and writing. Since 1990 she has focused entirely on Body Tales teaching, research, and lecture/demonstrations.

PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA

Olivia Corson/Body Tales, 45-minute videotape from performance in Chico, CA. Mar 2000
Third Stone From the Sun, 38-minute videotape and 10-minute promotional and booking tape, 1994
Literary and Arts Review of the *Jewish Bulletin* of Northern California, Corson profiled in summer 1993
Third Stone from the Sun published in *Uncoiling the Snake, Ancient Patterns in Contemporary Women's Lives*, Edited by Vicki Noble, Harper San Francisco, 1993
Wilderness Tango, original text, stories and music, 90-min audiotape, packaged for commercial distribution, 1993
Sacred River, a Women's Peace Journal; cover story features interview with Corson about Body Tales, 1992

TEACHING, PERFORMING & PRESENTING

Conferences—Presenter & Performer

- 14th International Conference on Conflict Resolution; St. Petersburg, Russia. May 2006
- National Dance Therapy Conference; San Francisco, CA. Sept 2001
- Annual Somatics Conference, Ohio State University; Columbus, OH. May 2000, May 1997, & May 1995
- National Drama Therapy Conference: *Bellies Unbound*—healing women's body image and eating disorders; San Francisco, CA. Nov 1998

Guest Appearances—Teacher, Presenter & Performer

- Northern California Dance Collective Summer Dance Camp; annual guest teacher, presenter and performer, Kings Canyon, CA. 1998-present
- Regular guest performances at “Moment’s Notice”—a monthly salon devoted to improvised music, dance & theater; Berkeley, CA. 2005-present
- 4 to 6 Body Tales performances annually in northern California. 1999-present
- Guest performer with Scott Wells & dancers; San Francisco, CA. Dec 2005
- *Heart of the Art: A Festival of Movement and Somatic Healing Art*; guest teacher, presenter & performer, Sebastopol, CA. May 2005 & May 2004
- *A Mother’s Day Tribute to Terry Sendgraff*; guest performer, San Francisco, CA. May 2005
- *Stories for Water*—a benefit performance for the Dagara people of Burkina Faso, West Africa; guest performer, Palo Alto, CA. Apr 2005
- *Lineage Loom: Exceptional Improvisational Movement Theater*, John F. Kennedy University; co-producer & performer, Berkeley, CA. Mar & Feb 2005
- *Embody Vision: Body Acceptance Community Summit*; guest performer, Oakland, CA. Oct 2002
- Women Environmental Artists Symposium, John F. Kennedy University; guest performer, Berkeley, CA. Oct 2001
- Guest teacher with Shakti Gawain; Honolulu, HI, May 2001 & Sonoma, CA, Sept 2001
- *With Liberty and Justice for All*—a performance benefit for the ACLU Foundation and Earthjustice; guest performer, San Francisco, CA. Dec 2000
- 1st & 2nd annual *Dance Prayer for the Bay* with SF Bay; co-producer, facilitator & teacher, Oakland, CA. Apr 2001 & Apr 2000
- Unconditional Dance Weekend Retreats, Harbin Hot Springs; guest teacher & performer, Middletown, CA. Dec 2000, Dec 1999 & May 1999
- Yale University, Class of ‘75’s 25th Reunion; guest presenter/performer, New Haven, CT. May 2000
- Ohio State University Dance Department; guest teacher, presenter, & performer, Columbus, OH. Mar 2000
- Dance New England’s 20th Annual Summer Dance Camp; guest teacher, presenter & performer, Naples, ME. Aug 1999
- *Works in the Works*—20th Anniversary of the Choreographer’s Performance Alliance Sunday Series; guest performer, Berkeley, CA. Apr 1999
- Women’s Goddess Festival; keynote performer, Occidental, CA. July 1998
- *Celebrating Women: Coming Home to Our Bodies*—a women’s weekend retreat in Montana; keynote presenter, teacher & performer, Boulder Hot Springs, MT. Sept 1998
- Northern California Chapters of National Association for Drama Therapy & American Dance Therapy Association Collaborative Benefit Performance; guest performer, San Francisco, CA. June 1997
- EarthArt Project: performances to celebrate Earth Day; creator, teacher & performer, Oakland, CA. Apr 1997
- University of Rochester Dance Department; guest teacher and performer, Rochester, NY. Apr 1997
- Professional Development through the Arts Summer Week-long Workshop for Teachers, Ohio State University College of Education; guest teacher, presenter & performer, Columbus, OH. June 1995
- Bay Area Movement Symposium, John F. Kennedy University; keynote presenter, Orinda, CA. Sept 1992

Guest Appearances—Teacher, Presenter & Performer (cont.)

- “The Rake’s Progress,” Berkeley Contemporary Opera; choreographer, Berkeley, CA. Mar 1992
- *Spirit Live: Multi-Media Participatory Celebration of Spirit*; sponsor & performer, San Rafael, CA. Dec 1991
- *Earth’s Alive!* Festival of the Arts, California Institute of Integral Studies; guest performer, San Francisco, CA. Apr 1990

Retreats & Workshops—Facilitator & Core Teacher

- Eight Tropical Residential (5-14 day) Retreats in Hawaii, Mexico, Costa Rica, and California
- 2 to 5 northern California weekend retreats annually in locations such as Los Gatos, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, Chico, Pescadero
- Body Tales & Clarity Breathwork Retreat co-taught with Maggie Ostara; Pescadero, CA. Feb 2006
- Esalen Institute, month-long Work-Scholar Program; Big Sur, CA. Sept 2005 & Sept 2004
- Esalen Institute, 5-day Body Tales Retreats; Big Sur, CA. Mar 2004, Jan 2003, Feb 2002 & Dec 2000
- Weekend Retreat for Women; Boulder Hot Springs, MT. Mar 2000
- Women’s Weekend Retreat co-taught with singer/songwriter Judy Fjell; Montana. Mar 1999 & Feb 1998
- John F. Kennedy University, Graduate School for Holistic Studies, Weekend Workshop; Berkeley, CA. Oct 1997
- Northern California Chapter of the American Dance Therapy Association, One-day Workshop; Berkeley, CA. June 1997

Class Series & Workshops—Facilitator

- 3 to 4 class series annually in the San Francisco Bay Area
- Ongoing bi-annual Body Tales Teacher Training courses; Berkeley & Los Gatos, CA. 1997-present
- “Body Tales on the Earth” – a 6-part series for women creating movement theater in nature; San Francisco & Marin, CA. Spring 1999

Letters of recommendation, references and further resume details available on request