

# SUSAN SUNTREE

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## Education

University of Arizona Folk Culture Institute, post-graduate research in folk drama and ritual, 1971

University of Kent, Canterbury, UK, Master of Arts in English and American

Literature, 1970. Dissertation: "King Lear: A Study of Two Productions" (Productions directed by Peter Brook and Trevor Nunn)

University of Arizona, Bachelor of Arts in English, minor in Art, 1968

Antelope Valley College, 1964-65

## Theatre Training:

New York University, Dramaturgy and Directing coursework

Augusto Boal: Theater of the Oppressed

Scot Kelman: Sound and Movement

John O'Keefe: Improvisation, Kinetics

Michael Brown: Sound and Movement, Masks, Puppets

Carlo Manzoni-Clementi: Commedia dell' arte

Jean Shelton: Method Acting

Kate Fitzmaurice: Voice

Weist, Barron, Hill: Television, Commercials

## Teaching Experience

East Los Angeles College, English Department, 1989-2015 retired. Tenured Instructor: creative writing, literature (World Mythology, American Literature I & II, Introduction to Dramatic Literature), critical thinking, composition,. Committees: Literature (Chair: 1994-99), Hiring, Honors Faculty, Composition. Faculty Co-advisor: *Milestone*, campus literary magazine.

Pomona College Visiting Lecturer-Artist, 2012, intercollegiate and interdisciplinary course based on *Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California*.

University of Utrecht, American Studies Department, Netherlands, 1999, Visiting Lecturer: Post World War II American Drama.

University of Judaism, 1999, English Department, Visiting Lecturer: Creative Writing.

University of Utrecht, American Studies Department, Netherlands, 1998, Visiting Lecturer: Survey of American Literature.

Writers' Circle, 1987-present. Private writing workshops and consulting.

Pierce College, 1988-89. English Department, Full-time Temporary Instructor: composition and literature.

Santa Monica College, 1984-98. English Department, Adjunct Instructor: literature, composition, beginning and advanced creative writing.

Awakening the Dreamer Creativity Workshops, 1985-86. Various locations in Northern and Southern California.

UCLA Extension, 1984, 1985. Creativity in the Classroom: Performing Arts and Poetry for the Disabled.

Antelope Valley College, 1983-84. English Department, Adjunct Instructor: beginning and advanced creative writing.

Sierra College Extension (Nevada City, CA), 1979. Discovering Masks.

California State University at Sacramento Extension (Nevada City, CA), 1979. Women's Theater.

Private classes (Nevada City, CA), 1976, 1980, 1982. Women's Theater, Improvisation.

Helsinki University of Technology, Helsinki, Finland, 1972. English Department, Visiting Lecturer: composition and literature.

Modesto Community College, 1970-75. English Department, Tenured Instructor: literature, folklore, drama, composition,. Designed and introduced methods of using folklore in teaching composition and theater.

La Familia Continuation High School, Lancaster, CA, 1970. Instructor: reading and writing.

## Publications

### Books

*Dear Traveler*. (Finishing Line Press, 2021). Poetry. 2021

*Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California*. (Univeristy of Nebraska Press, 2010; updated paperback 2020; audio book 2021.) NonFiction Narrative Poetry. Foreword by Gary Snyder. Winner: Non-fiction, Southern California Independent Booksellers Association; Winner: Narrative Poetry, PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award; Pomona College/Mellon Foundation Elemental Arts Award; Society for Voice Arts and Sciences (SOVAS) Finalist. Bestseller: Los Angeles Times.

*El Ojo de la Matriz*, Bilingual edition of *Eye of the Womb*. Nancy Dale Neiman and Milagros Salvador, translators. (Madrid, Vision Libros, 2010).

*Wisdom of the East: Stories of Compassion, Inspiration, and Love*. Editor. (Chicago: Contemporary Books/McGraw-Hill, 2001). Introduction by His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

*Rita Moreno* (New York: Chelsea Press, 1993). Young Adult Biography.

*Tulips* (Santa Cruz, CA: Exiled-in-America Press, 1991). Translations (with Dr. Nancy Dale Nieman) of poetry by Ana Rossetti. A bilingual chapbook.

*Eye of the Womb* (Nevada City, CA: Power Press, 1981). Poetry. Selected by UCLA and Yale University libraries for their Special Collections.

### Choral Work

"A Choral Quilt of Hope: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights:" Text adaptation as a poem; choral work by composer Adrienne Albert ([www.adriennealbert.com](http://www.adriennealbert.com)). Many performances by multiple choral groups.

### Poetry and Poetry Translations

"L'histoire de la Terre en vers libres : traduction inédite et commentaire d'un extrait du poème Sacred Sites par Susan Suntree;" "The history of Earth in free verse: a French translation and discussion of an excerpt from the poem Sacred Sites by Susan Suntree" by Victor Monnin, Arts et science/Art and Science, [www.openscience.fr](http://www.openscience.fr), : <https://www.calameo.com/iste-group/read/00584164653ee853f8704?trackersource=library>

Selected excerpts from *Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California in Toward a Poetry & Poetics of the Americas* by Jerome Rothenberg and Javier Taboada, University of California Press, 2022 (forthcoming).

"Rain Waters," "Blue Bluster," "Honk If You Love." *Moon and Sun*, Richard Modiano, ed, (No 7, 2021).

"He Wore Hats" *Postcard Poetry* (on-line) Spring 2017

"Lineage" *Fightin' Words: 25 Years of Provocative Poetry and Prose from "The Blue Collar PEN"* Anthology, (Berkeley: Heyday, 2014).

"Rain River Wetland" *Waterworks, Anthology, Studio for Southern California History* (2013).

"Human Beings: Singers, Balance Keepers," excerpt from *Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California. Ensemble Jourine: Hybrid Writing by Women*. Julia Doughty, ed. (Fall 2011).

"El Ojo de la Matriz." *Piedra del Molino: Revista de Poesia* (No 12, Spring 2010).

"At the British Museum Library" and "Rain River Wetland" and "Caviar, Mango, Endive" *Zinkzine 6* (On-line literary review: www.zinkville.com, January 2004).

"Write!" *The Spirit of Writing: Classic and Contemporary Essays Celebrating the Writing Life*. Mark Waldman ed. (New York: Tarcher Putnam, 2001).

"Paper Whites." *Kshanti Literary Review* (on-line literary journal: www.literary.org Spring 1999).

"Purify Me," translation of poem by Ana Rossetti (with Nancy Dale Nieman). *Prairie Schooner*. (University of Nebraska Press, Winter 1999).

"Feast of the Holy Name," "Garden of Your Delights," translations of poems by Ana Rossetti (with Nancy Dale Nieman). *RE:AI* (Stephen F. Austin State University Press, Summer 1998).

"Birthing Brings Me." *Journey into Motherhood*. Leslie Kirk Campbell, ed. (New York: Riverhead Books, 1996).

"At the Door of the Cabaret," translation of poem by Ana Rossetti (with Nancy Dale Nieman). *Community Endeavor* (Nevada City, CA: Vol. 6 No. 3, Pg. 11, February 1992).

"At a Buddhist Temple in April." *Not Mixing Up Buddhism: Essays on Women and Buddhist Practice*. Deborah Hopkinson, ed. (Fredonia, NY: White Pine Press, 1986).

"Dedication of a Tree." *Artists-Artistas. A Bilingual Journal* (Los Angeles, 1985).

"Birthing Brings Me," "Newborn," "Swaying." *Mother Poet Anthology*. Peggy O'Mara McMahon, ed. (Albuquerque: Mothering Publications, 1983).

"For My Unborn Baby." *Hard Pressed*. (Sacramento: Fall 1981).

"Gift for Ishtar," "Gaia." *Book of the Goddess*. Ann Forfreedom, ed. (Sacramento: Temple of the Goddess Within Publications, 1980).

"A Crone's Vision." *Wise Woman Newsletter*. (Sacramento: Temple of the Goddess Within, Fall 1980).

"Passage on Highway 80." *A Rainbow Has to Do Her Work*. (Berkeley: Aldebran Review, 1980).

"A New Garden." *We Speak Anthology*. (Nevada City, CA: Woman's Center, 1979).

"Berkeley Food." *City of Buds and Flowers: A Poet's Eye View of Berkeley*. (Berkeley: Aldebran Review, 1977).

"An Old Poet Discusses Dying." *Anthology of the First Annual Women's Poetry Festival of San Francisco*. (San Francisco: New World Collective, 1977).

"Feet." *Journal of Cultural Transformation*. (Modesto, CA, 1974).

## Papers and Presentations

"Merwin and Resistance to War: Why Poetry Makes a Difference." Beyond Baroque, Venice, CA, 2023.

"Merwin, War, and the Natural World: Merwin, Graves, and Snyder Speak Out." Merwin Panel. Pacific Asian and Modern Language Association Conference, Portland, 2023.

- "What's Love Got to Do With It?" Eco-Poetry panel. Pacific Asian and Modern Language Association Conference, UCLA, 2022.
- "The Decentered Self in *Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California* and other Poems." Eco-Poetry panel, Pacific Asian and Modern Language Association Conference, Las Vegas/Online, 2021.
- "Poetry, Landscape, Memory." Eco-Poetry panel. Pacific Asian and Modern Language Association Conference, San Deigo, 2020.
- "Poetry Los Angeles: Reading the Essential Poems of the City." Panel moderated by Laurence Goldstein. Associated Writers and Writing Programs Conference, Los Angeles, 1 April 2016.
- "Visions of the West." Panel moderated by Jonathan Kirsch. Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, University of Southern California, 21 April 2012. Broadcast on CSPAN BookTV.
- "Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California." Speaker and panel participant. 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Native American Film and Speaker Conference, Pitzer College, 2011.
- "Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California," Land and Literature panel, California Indian Conference, University of California at Irvine, 2010.
- "Legislative Theatre: How Could TO/ATA have Changed Elections in 2000?" Panel participant. Boal Symposium at the Los Angeles Theatre of the Oppressed Conference, University of Southern California, 2001.
- "Art in Action for Los Angeles Wetlands." Panel on Positive Activism: A New Approach to Saving Our Water. California Water and Waterways: Artist Intervention in Preservation, University of California at Irvine, 2000.
- "FrogWorks: Saving Private Pickle Plant." Panel on Performing Democracy: Issues Circumscribing the Theory and Practice of Community-Based Performance. American Theater in Higher Education, Washington D.C., 2000.
- "Translators As Writers," Panel on Literary Translation. PEN Salon, Los Angeles, 2000.
- "Earth Water Air Los Angeles Performance Trek." Panel on Theater As Witness. American Theater in Higher Education, San Antonio, 1998.
- "FrogWorks and the Earth Water Air Los Angeles Performance Trek." Panel on Redemption Through Nature? Notions of Authenticity and Progress in Urban and Rural Landscapes, and in the Poster Session. Second Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment. Missoula, MT, July 1997.
- "Masks in Political Street Theater." Panel on Mask Works II: Inventive Applications of Masks in Production and Training. American Theatre In Higher Education, Chicago, 1997.
- "FrogWorks In Los Angeles." Panel on Breaking Down the Walls: Dramaturgy and Community Based Theatre. American Theatre in Higher Education. Chicago, August 1997.
- "The Sacred Geography of Los Angeles." Presentation at Knowing the Land We Live On - A Bioregional Workshop presented by The Earth Trust Foundation. Malibu, CA, 1996.
- "A Bioregional Pilgrimage." A lecture and guided tour at The Power of Place: Knowing the Land We Live On - A Bioregional Conference, presented by The Earth Trust Foundation. Malibu, CA, 1996.
- "Dynamic Exhibition: Museums, Science, Theatre." Panel on Pictures Past and Present. Third Australian Women in Archaeology Conference. Sydney, Australia, 1995.
- "Influences of Folk Drama on Modern Theatre." Panel on Folklore and the Arts at the California Folklore Society Meeting. Modesto Community College, 1986.
- "The California Arts Council-National Endowment for the Arts Folk Art Residency in Oroville." Panel on Community Outreach Projects at the California Folklore Society Meeting. California State University at San Jose, 1978.

"St. Knut's Day Mumming in Finland." Panel on European Folklore at California Folklore Society Meeting. Fresno, CA, 1975.

"Folklore in the Teaching of Drama." Panel on Lore, The Lorist, and Turning on the Turned-Off Student at the Secondary Level at California Folklore Society Meeting. California State University at Sonoma, 1974.

### Essays, Articles, Chapters

"Memories of Milestone." Essay. *Milestone 2021*, Matt Mejia ed. East Los Angeles College Literary Review.

"We Are Looking for Ten or More Acres." Chapter. *Positions and Situations: Back to the Land Letters*. Vol. 2, 1974-1975. Alex Artis, ed. 2018.

"Beyond Baroque: Star and Spur." Essay. Harry Northup's poetry blog: <http://timestimes3.blogspot.com/2017/05/beyond-baroque-star-and-spur.html>.

"Ten Poems." Essay. Harry Northup's poetry blog: <http://timestimes3.blogspot.com/2017/05/beyond-baroque-star-and-spur.html>.

"Women's Theatre: Transforming Dreams." Chapter. *Women's Culture in a New Era: A Feminist Revolution?* G. Kimball, ed. (Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2005).

Introduction and "The Green Bean Sutra." Essay. *Wisdom of the East: Stories of Compassion, Inspiration, and Love*. Susan Suntree, ed. (New York, Contemporary Books, 2002).

"Reflections on Nature and Spirit in the Art of Linda Vallejo," Essay. Special Collections, UC Santa Barbara *Reflections on "Nature and Spirit,"* for Latino Art Museum exhibition. 2002.

"FrogWorks in Los Angeles" (chapter). *Playing Democracy: International Perspectives on Urban Community-based Performance*. Susan Haedicke and Tobin Nellhouse, eds. (University of Michigan Press, 2001).

"Earth Water Air Los Angeles: An Urban Trek to Save the Last Open Spaces" (with Jan Williamson). Chapter. *Organization and Environment*. (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, September 1999).

"Evaluation and Recommendations" and "The Storytellers Film" *Edgy Storytellers: A Film Companion and Theatre Workbook*. Essays. Susan Vaneta Mason and Eugene van Erven, eds. (Houghten, The Netherlands: Atalanta Publishers in collaboration with International Drama/Theatre Education Association (IDEA), 1997).

"Dynamic Exhibition: Making Theatre in Museums." Chapter. *Redefining Archaeology: Feminist Perspectives*. Anthea Burdock, ed. (Canberra: Australian National University Press, 1998).

"Two Successes." Essay. *My Eyes All Out of Breath: Statewide Anthology of California Poets in the Schools*. Gail Newman and John Oliver Simon, eds. (San Francisco: California Poets in the Schools Publications, 1981).

"Women's Theatre - Creating Our Dream Now." Chapter. *Women's Culture: The Women's Renaissance of the Seventies*. Gayle Kimball, ed. (Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 1977).

### Resident and Guest Artist

18th Street Arts Center, Santa Monica, CA. 2019-present

Squaw Valley Community of Writers, Guest, 2016.

Lou Harrison House, Joshua Tree, CA. 2014. Writer's Residency.

Montalvo Arts Center, group residence: Can Artists Heal Nature? 2013.

Culture in the Canyon Chautauqua Series, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, (July 2011). *Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California*: reading and performance.

The Powerhouse Theatre, 2001. Kid Power Workshops: "Giant Puppet Making and Performing."

North Columbia Culture Center, 2000. Lila Wallace-Readers Digest Guest Artist Series Workshop: "Nature, Politics, Performance."

University of Judaism, 2000. Introduction to Theater Workshop: "Making and Using Masks."

University College, University of Utrecht, Netherlands, 1999. Workshop: "Nature, Politics, Performance."

Roosevelt High School, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001. PEN Writers in the Schools Residency and Sacred Sites/Los Angeles projects.

California State University Summer School for the Arts, 1998. Workshop: "Voices from the Outside."

Archer School for Girls, 1998. Sacred Sites/Los Angeles workshop and tour.

PS1 Elementary School, 1993, 1995. Visiting Artist Programs: "Meeting the Land We Live On," and "Masks!"

California State University at Northridge, 1986, 1987, 1989. Very Special Arts Festival Workshop Leader: storytelling, masks.

Santa Monica Schools Gifted and Talented Education Program (GATE), 1986-87. Visiting Artist: masks, drama, poetry.

South Pasadena City Schools California Arts Council Residency, 1985. Visiting Artist, making and using masks.

Her Voice-Our Voices National Gathering on Women's Spirituality and Culture, 1985. Resident Artist: masks, creative writing.

UCLA ArtsReach, 1983-85. Theatre and Movement classes for disabled adults at service sites throughout Los Angeles.

Nevada County Community Workshop, 1981-82. Resident Artist: poetry, puppetry, theater for disabled adults.

Sunflower School, (Nevada City, CA), 1981-82. Playwriting workshop for middle school students.

California Poets in the Schools, 1977-82. Poetry workshops for students and teachers (grades 1-8) at schools throughout Nevada County, CA.

Primitive Arts Institute, 1976-83. Resident Artist: masks, ceremonies, ritual drama.

### **Guest Lectures**

"The Nature of Nature in Los Angeles." American Jewish University, Los Angeles, CA, 2013.

"What is a Ritual?" Theatre Department Freshman Foundation Course, Mellon Foundation Elemental Arts Initiative, Pomona College, 2012.

"Sacred Sites/Los Angeles: A Prehistory of the City from the Big Bang to 1542;" Graduate Program in Education, Antioch College, Marina Del Rey, CA, 2000.

"American Women Writers: A Personal Anthology;" American Studies Department, University of Utrecht, Netherlands, 1999.

"Feminism, Buddhism, and The Beats." American Studies Department, University of Utrecht, Netherlands, 1999.

"Multi-cultural Theatre in Los Angeles." Theatre Department, University of Utrecht, Netherlands, 1998.

"A Sense of Place - Using Alternative Sites and Subjects." Theater Department, Sarah Lawrence College, 1989.

"Interplay - A Performance Retrospective: 1977-1988." Gender, Culture, and Religion Program, Harvard Divinity School, 1989.

"Alternatives: Site, Subject, Source." Theatre Department, Pomona College, 1986.

"The Ritual Use of Masks." Theater Department, University of Southern California, 1984.

"Women and the Creative Process." American Association of University Women (AAUW) Conference, (Grass Valley, CA), 1979.

## Reviews

- "La Posada" at Our Lady Queen of Angeles Church, and "Everyman In the Mall" by Cornerstone Theatre at Santa Monica Place Mall. *Theatre Journal* (Johns Hopkins University Press, December 1995).
- "Europas 3 & 4" by John Cage at the Long Beach Opera, and "The Grateful Dead" in concert at the Oakland Arena. *Theatre Journal* (Johns Hopkins University Press, December 1994).
- "Twilight: Los Angeles" by Anna Deavere Smith at the Mark Taper Forum. *Theatre Journal* (Johns Hopkins University Press, March 1994).
- "The Desert Music: A Live Sho" by George Coates at Performance Works. *Theatre Journal* (Johns Hopkins University Press, December 1993.) Published under the name Frances C. Stout.
- "Ivona: Princess of Burgundia" by Witold Gombrowicz at the Odyssey Theatre Company, and "Nonoxynol-9," a punk band at the Anti-Club. *Theatre Journal* (Johns Hopkins University Press, October 1993).
- "An Evening with Adrienne Rich and Mary Daly" at the College of Marin. *Poetry Flash* (San Francisco, September 1977).
- "This is For the World" conceived and directed by Anita Patterson at the Oakland Ensemble Theatre. *Poetry Flash* (San Francisco, July 1977).
- "The First Annual Women's Poetry Festival of San Francisco" (with Jana Harris). *Poetry Flash* (San Francisco, June 1977).
- "Whale Honey: A Ritual Poem Play" by Diane di Prima at Intersection. *Poetry Flash* (San Francisco, October 1975).

## General Audience Essays

- "Chose History Over the Wreaking Ball: This 1911 Bungalow is a Window into Santa Monica's Past that is Worth Saving." Opinion. *The Argonaut*. Vol. 45, No. 40 (8 October 2015), p.12.
- "The Salmon Seer." *Spooning* mag on line; 2008.
- "Gehry Enters Fray Over Ballona Wetlands, Meets with Playa Vista Project Opponents." *Santa Monica Mirror*. Vol. III, Issue 7 (17 August 2001), p.1,7.
- "Express Yourself: Writing and Speaking." *Everything You Need to Know to Succeed After College*. Gayle Kimball, ed. (Chico, CA: Equality Press, 1993).
- "Ah! Adonis" (January 1990), "On Aphrodite" (December 1989), "Gods and Goddesses--Old Ways to New Styles" (May 1989). *Sensuelle* (Los Angeles: Melrose Square Publishers).

## Play

- "Origins of Praise." *The House of Women: Women's Art and Culture in the Eighties*. Sondra Hale, ed. (Long Beach: California State University at Long Beach, 1986).

## Photography

- A Finnish Carnival: Finnish Mumming Plays*. (Helsinki: Helsinki Folklore Institute, 1975).

## Playwright, Director, Performer

- Playwright, Performer, "Sacred Sites/Los Angeles," 1994-present. A one-woman performance adapted from the play "Sacred Sites/Los Angeles," about the prehistory of Los Angeles as indigenous narrative, songs, and contemporary science. Multiple performance sites, including: Pomona College, 2012; North Columbia Culture Center/Lila Wallace-Readers Digest Literary Series curated and introduced by Gary Snyder (Nevada City, CA 2000); Ohlone College, (Fremont, CA

1999); University of Judaism (Los Angeles, CA 1995, 1998, 1999); University of Utrecht, Netherlands (1998); Crossroads School (Santa Monica, CA 1998); Southern California Environment and History Conference (1997); Pomona College (Claremont, CA 1995); University of Southern California Fine Arts Department (1994, 1995); Australian Women in Archaeology Conference (Sydney, 1995); The Earth Trust Foundation Bioregional Conference (Malibu, CA 1995); The Earth Trust Foundation's Sacred Arts Program (Malibu, CA 1994).

Co-playwright, Performer, Co-producer, "Saving Private Pickle Plant," 1999-2005. A street theater musical comedy and satire about saving the Ballona Wetlands. Performances on the streets of Los Angeles and New York (Jan. 2000), and at schools, colleges, rallies, meetings, and clubs. Created and presented by FrogWorks. Produced by Wetlands Action Network and Theatre Flux.

Playwright, Performer, Co-Producer, "THE AMAZING Unveiling and Startling Origins of WETLANDS Land," 1996 -1999. A Commedia dell' arte-style satire street theater performance about saving the Ballona Wetlands. Performances on the streets and at schools, colleges, universities, conferences and meetings throughout the city. Created by FrogWorks; produced by Wetlands Action Network and Theatre Flux.

Founder, Co-director, Performer, "Earth-Water-Air Los Angeles" (EWALA), 1997-2001. An annual performance trek across Los Angeles, lasting from 1-4 days, with giant puppets, street theater, teach-ins, music, and poetry to educate people about the Los Angeles environment and its last open spaces.

Spoken Word Writer/Performer and Co-creator/Producer, "Sacred Wetlands Soundscape" in "Where The River Meets the Sea," Playa Del Rey, CA 1999. Produced by the World Festival of Sacred Music. Also at Earth Water Air Los Angeles program at Earth Day LA 2000.

Playwright, "Sacred Sites/Los Angeles," 1992. Presented at sunset at outdoor locations near the Los Angeles River: East Los Angeles, Compton, Glendale, and Valley Colleges. Directed by Susan Mason. Post-performance audience discussions lead by community and indigenous leaders, and faculty from the University of Southern California's Geography and Los Angeles Studies departments. Produced as part of The Los Angeles Project through the California State University at Los Angeles Department of Theater Arts and Dance and Theatre Flux.

Co-Playwright, Mask and Puppet Maker, "4 Women and an Angel," 1990. A collaboratively written play by members of the Los Angeles Theatre Center Women's Project. Toured and video taped for shelters serving homeless women and children.

Playwright, Director, "The Symphony of Giordano Bruno," 1988. A multi-media play performed in the Santa Monica College Planetarium. Produced by Theatre Flux in association with the Santa Monica College Associated Students, Santa Monica College Extension, and the Santa Monica College Planetarium.

Co-creator, Director, Performer, "Talking to the Sun," 1987. A participatory performance presented on a Santa Monica beach at dawn as the finale of the inaugural event ("24 Hours of Art") of the First Los Angeles Open Festival; produced by Theatre Flux in association with the festival.

Playwright, Performer, "Sacred Sites/Santa Monica," 1986-87. Performed at the Santa Monica Pier, Palisades Park, for the Santa Monica schools, and at Santa Monica College. A Theatre Flux production in association with the City of Santa Monica, the Santa Monica Schools, and the Santa Monica College Associated Students.

Playwright, Director, "SKINS: A Women's Mystery Play," 1985. Performed in the windows of a lingerie store, Playmates of Hollywood, on Hollywood Boulevard. A Theatre Flux production with Playmatesof Hollywood.

Creator, Director, "Light/Shadow Reaping," 1985. A participatory masked performance for the Summer Solstice commissioned by Women's Alliance. Performed outdoors by Participants in the Her Voice-Our Voices Women's Camp, Nevada City, CA, 1985.

Playwright, Director, Actor, "Brothers and Sisters," a masked play for children. Performed for the Los Angeles County Schools 1983; Target LA Festival 1984; LA Street Scene, 1984. Produced by Theatre Flux.

Director, "They Say the War Ended in 1945 But it Lives on in Me," (a performance by Sharon Kagan), 1984. Presented outdoors in Joshua Tree State Park and various Los Angeles locations.

Playwright, Performer, "Origins of Praise." A one-woman performance commissioned by and premiered at the Manhattan Theatre Club's Writers' in Performance Series, 1982. Also performed at Harvard University, 1982; Northern California Tour, 1982; The House of Women: National Conference on Women's Art and Culture at California State University at Long Beach, 1983; UCLA Graduate Forum in Theater, 1984; California Institute of the Arts, 1985; Perf 4 series of Pipeline Productions, Boyd St. Theatre, 1985; Pomona College Theatre Dept., 1986. Featured on "Arts Alive," KVIE-TV Sacramento.

Assistant Director, Storyteller, "Beauty and the Beast," 1984. A puppet show, performed by disabled adults in collaboration with women inmates of California correction facilities, at the Santa Monica Center for UCLA ArtsReach.

Director, Co-Playwright (with the performers), Storyteller, "A Love and Sad Story," 1983. Performed outdoors and on tour by disabled adults, at the Pacoima Center for UCLA ArtsReach. Featured on the CBS Evening News.

Director, Co-creator (with the performers), Mistress of Ceremonies, "Lillian: The Story of my Life: A Masked Cabaret," 1982. Performed in the cabaret of the Holbrooke Hotel by able and disabled adults from The Nevada County Community Workshop, and the community. Featured on "Arts Alive," KVIE-TV, Sacramento.

Director, Co-Creator (with the performers), Ringmaster, "The Barney Go Bill Whirling Circus," 1981. Created and performed by able and disabled adults at the Nevada County Community Workshop.

Co-Playwright, Performer, "Bawdy Suite-Sweet Body," 1978. A collaboratively created multi-media performance piece, produced in Santa Cruz, CA, by Broken Angel Revue.

Playwright, Co-Director, Actor, "Seed to Snow - Plays for the Seasons," 1978-1981. A four-part cycle of plays performed at outdoor sites (bars, streets, apple orchards, colleges, hilltops) at specific times of day: "Old Woman in the Snow," "Marriage of the Blue Planet," "Play for the Moon," "Seed Pulse." Nevada City and Northern CA tours. Produced by DramaWing.

Co-Creator, Actor, "Street Play," 1982. Masked street theater. Nevada City, CA. Produced by DramaWing.

Co-playwright/Adapter (with the ensemble), Performer, "Antigone Prism," 1977. One of the first women's theater pieces presented in the San Francisco Bay area. Produced by the Berkeley Stage Company.

## Performances

### Stage:

Numerous roles including: Rossignol, "Marat/ Sade" (Modesto, CA, 1973); Hayakuma Yamamba, "Yamamba" (Nevada City, CA, 1982); Marianna Splendorek, "They" (Los Angeles 1987).

### Voice Over:

"The Stage is A Village" documentary film in conjunction with *Community Theatre: Global Perspectives* by Eugene van Erven. (London: Routledge, 2001).

"A Love and Sad Story" documentary, produced by UCLA ArtsReach.

"The El Camino Ranch" and others for Mercedes Maharis Productions, Los Angeles.

### Film and Video Acting:

Cindy, "Pauline and the Mysterious Pervert" Shameless Hussy Films. Alta, Director.

Malika, "Lakme," Objectif Productions, Jean Claude Dercle, Director.

Eva, "Witch and Prostitute" Dream Vision Productions, Ana Penido, Director.

### Radio:

Interview (Wisdom of the East chosen as a premium) on "The Morning Show." 2002, KPFA.

Interview about Wisdom of the East on "Book Town." 2002. KVMR.

Interviews about EWALA on "Up for Air." 1998, 1999. KPFK.

Interview and excerpts, "Talking to the Sun." KCRW.

Interview and excerpts, "Sacred Sites/Santa Monica." KCRW.

Broadcast with interview, "Origins of Praise." WNYC, WBAI, NPR.

Broadcast lecture, "What is a Ritual?" KUSP.

Poetry Readings: KPFK, KVMR, KJAZ, KUSP.

Director, adaptation of *American Buffalo* by D. Mamet. KVMR.

Host, "A Woman's Place Radio Hour." Interviews, radio drama, news, readings.

KVMR, 1979-80.

Actor, "The Diaries of Anais Nin." I-Thou Theatre. NPR.

## Professional Experience

Artistic Director, Theatre Flux, 1985-present. Researching "Ear to the Current," a choral performance with pocket and giant puppets about the community efforts to save the Ballona Wetlands, the Los Angeles River, and the Ahmanson Ranch.

Co-director (with Gillian Hodge), Simple Path--Arts for the Disabled, 1982-89. Designed, scheduled, and presented workshops in performing arts and poetry for the disabled to hospitals, schools, colleges, and centers serving the disabled. Clients included Orange County School District; Los Angeles County School District; California State University at Northridge; Lanterman State Hospital.

Co-Producer, Nevada County Community Workshop Theatre Projects, 1981-82. Conceived, created, and directed productions involving 20-30 client performers, 10-18 staff and volunteers. Coordinated documentation.

Production Associate, Original Face Video, 1981-82. Text preparation for video scripts and publicity.

Artistic Director, DramaWing of the Primitive Arts Institute, 1978-1982. Produced experimental theater and poetry programs, radio shows, workshops, and presented touring groups.

Co-founder and Director of the Primitive Arts Institute, Nevada City, CA, 1976-1982. Recipient of three California Arts Council grants. Designed and administered week-long camps, workshops, and other programs about primitive arts and culture. Grant writing. Created audio-visual and written documentation for the California Arts Council.

North Sierra Regional Coordinator, California Poets in the Schools, 1978-82. Raised matching funds locally; expanded program from one school to eight; organized student readings for the public in conjunction with local organizations; published student anthology; publicity; public relations.

Founding Director, Nevada County Arts Council, Grass Valley, CA, 1978. Program development, public relations, publicity, grant writing, site development.

Director, Folk Art Week, Pleasant Ridge School, Grass Valley, CA, 1978. Designed and administered a ten-day model program for over two hundred students, involving twenty-one teachers, plus parents and volunteers, and six guest artists. Prepared visual and written documentation for the school district.

Folklorist, Folk Artists in the Schools Model Residency, Oroville Joint Union High School District, 1975-77. A joint California Arts Council-National Endowment for the Arts Folk Art Program designed as a national model. Administered a Visiting Folk Artists Series featuring artists from the major ethnic groups in the area; served as liaison and created and presented written and audio-visual documentation to the California Arts Council.

### **Honors and Awards**

Antelope Valley High School Hall of Fame, 2022.

Society for Voice Arts and Sciences, Audiobook International Finalist, Sound Design, *Sacred Sites: The Secret History of Southern California*, 2021.

Santa Monica Conservancy Preservation Advocacy Award, 2019.

Mellon Foundation Elemental Arts Award, Pomona College, 2012.

Southern California Independent Booksellers Association Award: Non-fiction, 2011.

PEN Oakland Josephine Miles Award, Narrative Poetry, 2011.

Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter, Extraordinary Achievement Award, Ballona Wetlands Task Force Management Committee, March 2004.

Fund for the Environment-Environment Now Recognition Award, 2003

The Puffin Foundation, for work with FrogWorks, 2000.

Co-director of EWALA: Grants from the Nathan Cummings Foundation, Southern California War Resisters League, the Sierra Club, Save Open Space Foundation, Earthways Foundation, 1998-2000.

International Exchange Artist Award for a residency in the Netherlands from the 18th Street Arts Complex, Santa Monica, CA., 1998.

Commission, through the Ford Foundation as part of California State University at Los Angeles' Los Angeles Project for "Sacred Sites/Los Angeles," 1995.

Member, Los Angeles Theatre Center's Women's Project, 1986-1991.

The Santa Monica Art Commission and Santa Monica Art Foundation as well as private funding, for "Sacred Sites/Santa Monica," 1986.

California Arts Council as resident artist, mask maker (part of a multi-artist program), South Pasadena Schools, 1985.

The California Arts Council as resident artist, as part of the UCLA ArtsReach multi-artist program, 1983-85.

Commission, Manhattan Theater Project's Writers-In-Performance series for "Origins of Praise," 1982.

Mortimer Fleishacker Foundation grant, for work as North Sierra Regional Coordinator, California Poets in the Schools, 1981.

The California Arts Council as artist and co-director of the Primitive Arts Institute, 1976, 1979, 1980.

The California Arts Council, as poet/playwright for the inter-disciplinary, multi-media performance, "Bawdy Suite-Sweet Body," 1978.

The California Arts Council/National Endowment for the Arts Folk Art Program, to create a Visiting Folk Artist Series for the Folk Artists in the Schools State and National Model Residency in the Oroville High School District, to serve as project liaison to the California Arts Council, and to produce audio-visual documentation of the project.

University of Kent Research Grant, 1970.

## **Associations**

Authors Guild  
 PEN  
 Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment  
 Pacific Asian and Modern Language Association  
 Santa Monica Conservancy

## **Public Service**

Co-Founder and Co-chair: Friends of 11th Street/ 11th Street Historic District, a committee of Santa Monica Mid City Neighborhood Association, 1999-2022

Management Committee, Sierra Club Wetlands Restoration Task Force, 2005-2015.

Treasurer, Sierra Club Ballona Wetlands Taskforce, 2002-2005.

Board of Directors, Wetlands Action Network, 1999-2017.

Member, (Theatre Flux) Citizens United to Save ALL of Ballona (CUSAB), 1997-2002.

Member, Board of Directors, Mid-City Neighbors, a non-profit neighborhood organization, 1989-1991.

Founding Member, Santa Monica Preservation Alliance, 1989-1991.  
Member, Committee to Save Sa'anga (a Native American archeological site), 1988-90.  
Co-Director, Primitive Arts Institute, Nevada City, CA., 1976-1982.  
Founding Director, Lola Montez House, for the Nevada County Arts Council, 1978.