



SCHOOL OF THE ARTS AND ARCHITECTURE

CENTER FOR INTERCULTURAL PERFORMANCE
UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures
www.wac.ucla.edu/cip

JUDY MITOMA, DIRECTOR

The Los Angeles Times selects CAN YOU HEAR ME? Asian Dance Voices as one of the 10 best dance events of the year 2006

"UCLA professor Judy Mitoma's current projects represent some of the most visionary approaches to dance and related arts at the turn of this century." – Los Angeles Times

"The amazing spectrum of talent suggests the tantalizing possibilities for this cross-cultural experiment [APPEX]."
– LA Weekly

At the core of the performances rested the inextricable link between music expression and the quest for meaning within the infinite that is the goal of all spiritual pursuits. And what was most fascinating and in fact most compelling about the entire festival is the extraordinary diversity of means that human kind has employed over thousands of years to achieve this goal.

-- Los Angeles Times (World Festival of Sacred Music-LA)

I. BACKGROUND

In 1995, as part of an initiative to strengthen international exchange and collaboration in the arts, the **Ford Foundation** awarded a national grant to the UCLA Department of World Arts and Cultures' newly established Center for Intercultural Performance. The UCLA Center for Intercultural Performance (CIP) is dedicated to performing arts research and experimentation that promotes better understanding and appreciation across cultures. Our goal is to stimulate artistic practices that respond to the realities of our global environment with emphasis on international exchange, creative collaboration, research, publication, and film/video documentation. CIP serves as a model arts/research organization that bridges the University with the world. By connecting multicultural arts education and research that includes practice as well as theory, the Center provides a unique service to the educational needs of students, artists and educators from diverse communities and traditions. Our educational initiatives contribute to the diversity and overall health of the performing arts community. CIP has demonstrated the ability to identify and implement projects of current concern to the field and set new standards that serve as a foundation on which others may build. Benefiting from years of activity within the university our work in cultural understanding combines responsible research with civic activism.

In its ten-year history the Center has invigorated the School's academic and creative programs by providing fellowships to faculty and students, hosting international artists, and

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presenting public programs. For the general public, our presentations, touring projects and media projects promote understanding and appreciation of the arts across cultures. The Center has supported a total of 7,000 local and international artists. Approximately 200,000 individuals benefited from our programs and were involved as audience members and partners. The Center's public information reached estimate 7 million individuals via radio, print, television and Internet formats. Our programs have been broadcast on PBS stations nationally and received editorial coverage in major mainstream publications and such as the LA Times, New York Times, Orange County Register, Chronicle of Higher Education among others. Another strength of the Center is its history of partnering and supporting organizations outside UCLA as well as the support it has garnered from numerous foundations and government agencies.

II. CORE PROGRAMS

a. International Exchange:

Asia Pacific Performance Exchange (APPEX) Fellowship Residency Programs 2009 & 2010
The Center promotes international exchange and interdisciplinary collaboration through the Asia Pacific Performance Exchange (APPEX) residencies with a particular focus on American and Asian artists. The goal of this program is to foster mutual understanding by bringing together traditional and contemporary performing artists from Asia and America in reciprocal creation, performance, and education initiative on the UCLA campus.

APPEX is an educationally based international exchange artists residency program that supports cross-cultural and interdisciplinary understanding; develops rigorous strategies for art making reflecting the nuances of cultural differences; and fosters new ways to experiment, collaborate and interpret artistic expression. APPEX programs at UCLA and Indonesia (1996, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2004 & 2006) have brought together more than 200 artists of varying disciplines from Asia and America. Together, CIP and APPEX have worked to define ways in which intercultural experimentation can create alternative modes of practice and, at the same time, help artists respond to the changes they see in the world around them.

The Center has administered six APPEX programs over the past 10 years and proposes to host two additional programs in 2009 & 2010.

b. Working with diverse communities:

The Center serves the educational and cultural interests of the people of Los Angeles by producing performing arts events and festivals that generate new modes of understanding, stimulate diverse artistic and cultural practice and build audience participation.

World Festival of Sacred Music—Los Angeles (WFSM-LA) www.festivalofsacredmusic.org
The World Festival of Sacred Music – Los Angeles exists as a partnership of hundreds of arts and faith based organizations, environmental groups, artists, and venues that consolidate their efforts once every three years in order to host this culturally inclusive, community oriented Festival. With 185 multidisciplinary events and an attendance of 200,000 people in the 1999, 2002 and 2005 Festivals, WFSM-LA is the largest citywide Festival currently active in Los Angeles. Over 6,000 artists presented their work in 180 diverse sites across Los Angeles and some 750,000 people had some contact with our festivals through our PR campaign. We

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successfully got the public to travel to sites throughout Los Angeles, crossing neighborhood borders as well as cultural, religious, and ideological boundaries.

The 2008 Festival will be the fourth and we will for the first time include programming (Emerging Voices Project) designed to specifically include young musicians and dancers in Southern California as participants and audience.

To date, we have successfully accomplished the following:

Fellowship Programs: Asia Pacific Performing Arts Exchange (APPEX) Fellowship Residency Programs (1996, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2004 & 2006). APPEX residencies have hosted over 200 artists from USA and Asia at UCLA and in Indonesia.

UCLA Choreographers Arts/Management Fellowship Program (2006, 2007). Residency at UCLA and in Asia (Malaysia, Cambodia, Indonesia) for dancers, educators and culture workers to study Asian & American methods of education, creation and arts management.

Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Resident Fellowship (1999, 2000). Scholars/writers residency at UCLA during APPEX programs.

UCLA National Dance/Media Project (1998, 1999, and 2000). Residency programs for 18 filmmakers on the UCLA campus.

Citywide Festivals: World Festival of Sacred Music. (1999, 2002, 2005)
Multidisciplinary Festival with that serves the educational and cultural interests of the people of Los Angeles

Conference/Convenings: Inroads Asia Conference (1997). International conference sponsored by Ford Foundation and hosted in partnership with Arts International.

International Collaboration in the Arts (2001). Convening of seven national arts organizations to discuss issues related to international exchange.

Public Presentations/Educational Activities

APPEX (1996–2006). 28 public presentations of international artists held on the UCLA campus and venues throughout Los Angeles.

UCLA/CAM (2006) One presentation of international artists at the Gloria Kaufman Dance Theater, UCLA.

2006 Performance by NY based dancers/choreographers Eiko and Koma

2006 Workshop/Performance by dancers and musicians from Rajasthan, India at the Gloria Kaufman Dance Theater, UCLA.

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2006 Workshops/Performance by artists from Chiang Mai University, Thailand

2005 Workshops by 25-member Gamelan Cudamani from Bali Indonesia

2005 Workshops/Performances by 7 Kurdish Musicians from Iraq

2005 Workshops with World Festival of Sacred Music artists/Presenters

2004 Workshop/Performance -artists from World Ethnic Dance Institute (Korea)

2004 Workshop/ Performance by Sufi musician Houman Pourmehdi

2004 Symposium with Dr. Chanthaphilith Chiemsisouraj, Minister of Culture, Laos

2004 Lecture by Performing Arts Scholar- Sunil Kothari from India

2004 Introduced 300 students from 15 continuation high schools in LA to music/dance through workshops with 5 artists from the World Festival of Sacred Music-LA.

UCLA National Dance/Media (1998-2000). Nine public presentations by dance filmmakers on the UCLA campus.

Research & Publications:

Narrative/Performance: Cross Cultural Perspectives at APPEX (Book/Dvd), 2003. Essays written by Rockefeller Foundation Fellows.

Envisioning Dance on Film & Video (Book/DVD), 2002. Published by Routledge with 40 commissioned essay and film samples on an accompanying DVD.

Touring Projects

The Art of Rice Traveling Theater (2002-2003). An original full-length evening work of music and dance created by artists from China, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Taiwan, and the United States toured Indonesia, Hawaii and Southern California.

Documentary Projects

Creating Across Cultures (VHS). Documentary of APPEX 1999.

APPEX 2000 DVD. Two-hour documentary on artists and activities of this program (later included in Narrative/Performance publication).

Songs from the City of Angeles. 2002 World Festival of Sacred Music DVD. One-hour documentary featuring international artists as they traveled to Los Angeles.

2002 & 1999 World Festival of Sacred Music (CD's)

1999 World Festival of Sacred Music (Video/DVD). 100 independent filmmakers document performances across LA.

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III. FUNDRAISING/CAPACITY BUILDING:

CIP operates under University of California's 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status as its host institution. CIP's administrative offices are maintained on campus with office space, utilities and maintenance provided on an in-kind basis by UCLA. CIP is currently located in the newly renovated space of 600 square feet in the Gloria Kaufman Hall in the Department of World Arts and Cultures.

The Center depends on its ability to raise extramural funds for its projects. A mark of our increased capacity is grants from the Ford Foundation and two major grants from the United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Center has also received funds from the NEA, Rockefeller Foundation, Asian Cultural Council, Ford Foundation Jakarta, National Commission for Culture and Arts-Philippines, UCLA School of Arts & Architecture, UCLA Center for Southeast Asian Studies and Soros Foundation. Additionally, as a result of the facilitating the World Festival of Sacred Music-LA the Center has developed working relationship with major funders such as: Irvine Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department, Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Nathan Cummings Foundation, Threshold Foundation and Nathan Cummings Foundation.

In 2003, Judy Mitoma received the John D. Rockefeller 3rd Award for her many outstanding contributions as an educator, artist, scholar, producer, and arts advocate having a profound impact on the way that Asian performing arts are presented and understood in the United States and around the world. The Trustees of the Asian Cultural Council presented the award. This further validates the Center's particular approach to international and cross-cultural collaboration.

To date, significant progress has been made to further strengthen CIP's ties on campus and externally. CIP contacted a number of key organizations and individuals on the UCLA campus and the outside community to seek critical advice and support for the future. On the UCLA campus, CIP has collaborated across a range of units such as: UCLA Fowler Museum; UCLA Live; UCLA Development Office, UCLA Department of Ethnomusicology, UCLA Asia Institute, UCLA Center for South East Asia Studies, UCLA Theater Department, UCLA International Studies Department, UCLA Summer Sessions, UCLA Center for Student Programming, ASUCLA Cultural Affairs Commission, UCLA Cultural & Recreation Affairs, UCLA Community Partnerships and UCLA Events Office among others. Faculty and student interest in CIP also continues to grow, as students are trained as interns in the Center and receive "hands on" experience in the performing arts field.

CIP's contact with the greater Los Angeles community, presenters, producers and artists has also been expanded as a result of its public programs. Representatives from the Consular offices of Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, France and the Czech Republic have attended many of our public performances. A number of arts organizations have been engaged in these programs including: Watts Towers, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center; Grand Performances; The Greek Theater; Self Help Graphics; Ford Amphitheater, and Skirball Cultural Center, among others. Our residency programs have provided opportunity to build partnerships with several international organizations, such as: Royal University of Fine Arts, Cambodia; National Dance Academy, Malaysia; Department of Dance and Fine Arts, Yogyakarta; Chiang Mai University, Thailand; The World Ethnic Dance Institute (WEDI), Korean National University of Arts (Korea); and Julliard School of Fine Arts, New York among others.