



College of Visual and Performing Arts
Academic Affairs
4400 University Drive, MS 3E6, Fairfax, VA 22030

Collaboration and Community:

The College of Visual and Performing Arts

Faculty and Students'

*International Participation in Performance, Exhibitions,
Commissions, and Conferences*

Introduction

As the Berlin Wall tumbled, after the horror of September 11, 2001, during intense negotiations with North Korea, one constant remains – the arts have served, are serving, and will continue to serve as a conduit for international dialogue. Academics, researchers and government officials recognize the significance of the arts in global conversations. The arts provide an incremental step on the road to development, democracy, peace, and respect for human rights. For example, the recent symphonic concert in North Korea demonstrates how the arts facilitate exchanges among nations, peoples, and cultures. The concert may not have been the exact catalyst in North Korea's willingness to listen to Western diplomatic requests, but this musical event was well received, creating a positive moment in tense times.

CVPA faculty's current and future activities provide a welcoming and collaborative venue for all artists around the world. Many CVPA artists engage in discussions with their colleagues at home and abroad on topics such as performance opportunities, creative challenges, teaching and learning through the arts, and art and diplomacy. The Arts Management Program continues to work with international leaders in this dynamic field, developing student or course exchanges, visits to the world's most significant artistic venues, and participating on panels that investigate the future of art in our lives. As Mason explores opportunities to open campuses across the globe, CVPA's faculty and students will be ready to share their experiences within these communities of international learners.

George Mason University's arts programs participate in international discourse through music, theater, dance, and design. Examples of the artistic accomplishments performed by the College of Visual and Performing Arts faculty and students also create positive moments around the globe.

Global Education and Research Report
College of Visual and Performing Arts
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School of Art

Tom Ashcraft traveled to Kenya, summer 2009, to Lord Delamere's Estate, where he was establishing a field station for a sustainable arts program. This was part of Mason's Center for Field Studies program.

Shan-shan Cui is working with **Helen Frederick** and Prof. Lin Mu, the Dean of the College of Art, Sichuan Normal University, to organize exchange exhibitions for printmaking programs. They hope that this effort will serve as a beginning for other forms of collaboration, such as workshops, summer programs, etc.

Mark Cooley is a writer / critic for Furtherfield.org. He completed the review, "Thou God Seest Me: Some Gathered Thoughts for A Short Film About War."

http://www.furtherfield.org/displayreview.php?review_id=356

Furtherfield.org, based in London, provides platforms for creating, viewing, discussing, and learning about experimental practices at the intersections of art, technology, and social change.

Maria Karametou earned a Fulbright Senior Research Scholar Award

Council for the International Exchange of Scholars, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC.; Her Project: "A Visual Investigation of Embroidery and Textile Designs in the Search for Creative Expression." This project includes the study and documentation of embroidery and textile designs from the Ottoman Empire to the present; investigation and analysis of the influences of these traditional designs on the contemporary Turkish art scene, especially under the impact of global trans-nationalism and the country's pending membership in the European Union. University Affiliation: Mimar Sinan University of the Fine Arts, Istanbul, Turkey.

Helen Frederick coordinated the SEARCH Project Colloquium, which was presented at the 2009 International Conference on the Arts in Society held in Venice, Italy, July 2009, in conjunction with the Venice Biennale. The project coordinated by Frederick with collaborators Maria Barbosa, Despina Meimaroglou, Juanita Hardy, and Jana Harper was represented as part of a delegation of over 300 speakers from around the world.

School of Dance

Jim Lapore was the Guest Artist in Residency, and taught company classes for Conjunto Folclorico Cutumba, Santiago De Cuba, May 16-17, 2009. He also conducted a site visit to Santiago de Cuba, May 15-22, 2009, where he made contacts with performing groups for future workshops with GMU students. Lapore made a second site visit, August 2009, to Merida, Mexico, and observed extant social dance tradition that continues in Mexico based on Cuba Danzon.

Kate Mattingly will be participating in a project hosted by Dance Theater Workshop - the NYC dance theater and commissioning organization. She was invited by DTW to attend a festival of new choreographers in Serbia, October 2-3, 2009, to observe and write about new artists. This is an opportunity to see how dance as an international art form continues to grow and evolve. Artistic change is happening on the outskirts of the EU, by choreographers from Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia. The event is called the Balkan Dance Platform and the other participant from the US is Carla Peterson, Artistic Director of DTW.

Karen Studd is the coordinator and program designer for the Laban Institute of Movement Studies Modular Program in Movement Analysis. This program, which was launched 4 years ago, primarily attracts dance and theater performing artists, artist educators and artist therapists. Housed in New York City the program draws an international group and although it is taught in English, one-third to one-half of the students are from outside the US. Recent graduates have included dance artists from Chile, Scotland, and South Korea. The current group includes a theater professional from Mexico and a dance therapist from Taiwan. She has taught movement analysis for 20 years in Poland, Canada, and the across US. She is currently assisting LIMS create and co-sponsor a new modular training program in China. Studd has been invited to coordinate and to teach in this new program which is slated to start in 2010.

School of Music

Mark Camphouse, School of Music Interim Director, served as guest composer-conductor with The Philharmonic Winds of Osaka (Japan) during the 14th International Conference of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) at the University of Cincinnati in July 2009. Camphouse's compositions were heard in performance this summer in the Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Esztergom, Hungary, the Budapest Arts Center, and at the National Festival of Music for Youth in Symphony Hall in Birmingham, England.

Stan Engebretson performed June 2008 in Cologne, Germany, as the Guest Conductor/Clinician with German Choir. Between June 24- July 12, 2008, he worked with Pre-Olympics Music Festival Tour, Beijing, Shian, Shanghai, China .In January 2009, Dr. Engebretson was presented by the Fulbright Foundation as a Senior Specialist in Reykjavik, Iceland, for 3 weeks, where he taught conducting, repertoire, and interpretation in the National Sacred School of Music and the National Conservatory. Later in January 2009, he attended the German Conductors' Annual Conference meeting to discuss current and future projects, take part in their annual convention for new repertoire and techniques, Limburg, Germany.

Anthony J. Maiello's international activities include Guest Conductor International Wind Band at the American School in London, England, March, 2008; and Guest Conductor, International DoDDS Honor Band.

Patricia Miller: attended the Amalfi Coast Music Festival, Vietri-sul-Mar, Ravello, Naples, Italy. GMU Vocal Studies students participated in voice study, opera, concerts and recitals, Summer 2009. In addition, Miller taught voice/opera at Ewha Womans University, South Korea.

Linda Apple Monson, pianist, was a featured lecture-recitalist in July 2009 for the International Conference of the College Music Society held in Zagreb and Dubrovnik, Croatia. Dr. Monson presented two lecture-recitals at this prestigious conference: "Cultural and Pedagogical Influences of the Brahms Circle in Central Europe During the Late 19th Century" and "Mathematical Approaches to Music Analysis: Schoenberg/Ullman, Berg/Finney; Variations on a Theme." The second lecture-recital was a joint presentation with **Rachel Bergman**, theorist.

Department of Theater

Kristin Johnsen-Neshati presented "Egyptian Theater and the State: Cairo's Artists Speak Out," International Federation of Theatre Research (FIRT/IFTR) World Congress 2009, Arabic Theater Working Group, Lisbon, Portugal, July 2009. She contributed "Invisible Collaborator: The Challenges and Prospects of Women Dramaturgs in the United States and Egypt," in Mieke Kolk, ed., *Performing Gender: Proceedings from the Fourth Intercultural "East Meets West" Theatre Conference*, University of Sudan, College of Music and Drama, Khartoum, Sudan, December 2007; published July 2009.

Johnsen-Neshati served as festival juror, Al-Buga'a International Theater Festival, Khartoum, Sudan, March-April 2009. She moderated "Shakespeare in the Arab World" panel, featuring Sulayman Al-Bassam, Michael Kahn and Prof. Margaret Litvin, in conjunction with the Kennedy Center's production of *Richard III*, Arabesque Festival, March 2009. She presented "The Role of the Production Dramaturg" to an audience of department faculty and graduate students, Ain Shams University, Department of English, Cairo, Egypt, October 2008.

Johnsen-Neshati reviewed Kuwaiti, Sudanese and Yemeni productions for *The Experimental*, the daily trilingual journal for the Cairo International Festival for

Experimental Theater, October 2009; and she presented “From Court to Stage: The Peregrinations of *Kalila wa Dimna*,” FIRT/IFTR World Congress 2008, Arabic Theater Working Group, Seoul, Korea, 2008.

Her publications include: “Theater: The Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia” for the *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World*, 2008.

Edward Gero is conducting research in Italy, Fall 09, and is collaborating on a book, entitled: *Fables and Folktales from the Irpinia*, edited by Aniello Russo, illustrated by Gennaro Vallifuoco. Gero will translate the book and write the forward.

Arts Management Program

Richard Kamenitzer addressed a delegation from China on developing support for the arts in the USA, May 2009. He also addressed a delegation from Russia on developing support for academic activities May 2009.

Kamenitzer and Gail B. Kettlewell participated in the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Republic of Sierra Leone for MASON to be designated as the principal agent for the planning and fund raising of a community college system in that country; participated in gaining a grant from USAID for this purpose focused on the development of a strategic plan; started the strategic planning process working with counterparts from the University of Sierra Leone. Effort was executed both here in the United States and by visits/field work in Sierra Leone over a six month period. Both Mason faculty spend a significant amount of time in Sierra Leone this summer 09.