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Author

Fisher, Jennifer

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Undergraduate

***Dance Major Journal* features writing by university dance majors for dance majors—and for the people who seek to understand them. How do dance majors see the world? How have they experienced dance and its effects? What are the issues that matter to them? Writers also include students studying for graduate degrees in Dance, and occasional contributions from dance world professionals.**

With respect, *Dance Major Journal* acknowledges it is produced on lands occupied at first, and still, by Tongva and Acjachemen Native American peoples.

This 2019 edition starts with a performative essay on how paper rules our lives from dance-major-turned-MFA-student Radhanath Thialan, who turned this particular written work into a choreographic one. There follows a strong statement on how the dance world should recognize mental health issues (Ducci), and two musings on how to deal with the demand for ideal bodies (Choong and Cox). Two different undergrad experiences led dancer/choreographers to choose opposing paths in terms of majoring—one deciding to focus completely on dance (Maduro), and one finding how much a Gender Studies major added to her artistic practice (Scheller). Closing this section is an emphasis on the values of cross-training to produce well-rounded dancers ready for professional demands (Richards), and an overview of the global tour of dance activity offered by an entertaining and informative Netflix series (Thrasher).

The next five essays recommend fascinating documentaries that can enhance a dance major's life, with persuasive capsule reviews of films on Martha Graham (Kinghorn), Pina Bausch (Matsuyama-Tsai), Pilobolus (Damasco), Merce Cunningham (Senning) and Bob Fosse (Snyder).

For inspiration, the last essay contains invaluable advice for young dancers from legendary choreographer and distinguished professor Lar Lubovitch.

Many thanks as always to all the talented and thoughtful dance majors and graduate students who have written for this issue, and who will undoubtedly keep contributing to the dance world in the future.

Founding editor: Jennifer Fisher, Ph.D.
University of California

SUBMISSIONS: Currently based at the University of California, Irvine, DMJ welcomes submissions from dance majors and MFA candidates elsewhere. Short “journalistic” essays on a variety of topics will be considered, with interviews, opinion pieces, dance viewing recommendations, and personal stories welcome. Submissions informed by research recommended, acknowledging sources formally or informally. Word documents with a short bio and contact information can be sent to: jjfisher@uci.edu.