

Sophia I. Stoller

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Education

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- 2013-2015 **California Institute of the Arts | Valencia, CA**
MFA Choreography
- 2006-2010 **University of California, Los Angeles | Los Angeles, CA**
BA World Arts and Cultures/Dance
BA Psychology

Artistic Directorship

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- 2016-Present **Founder/Artistic Director | Iris Company**
Contemporary Dance Theater company specializing in immersive performance and dance on film. Debut performance *The Other Side* received a large amount of positive press and was named "One of the most incredible things we've ever seen" by Hollywood Close-Up.
- 2010-2013 **Co-Founder/Co-Artistic Director | Soul Lab Dance Project**
Five-member all female dance collective based in Los Angeles, CA
Choreographed works that were presented in numerous festivals in Southern California, curated two performances of work by LA based artists, and choreographed/produced an evening length work.

Teaching Experience

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- 2015-Present **Teaching Artist | The Gabriella Foundation**
2011-2013 Teach modern, contemporary, hip hop, jazz, creative movement, ballet, & composition to K-8 students at Gabriella Charter School, Camino Nuevo Charter Academy, & Everybody Dance! after school program. Choreographed works performed in fully produced student performance.
- 2016-Present **Dance Teacher | Petite Feet Dance**
Teach pre-ballet, tap, and modern
- 2016-Present **Dance Teacher | Mar Vista Elementary School**
Teach TK and Kindergarten creative movement
- 2016 **Guest Teacher | Contemporary Modern Dance Collective**
Part of CMDC's ongoing class series rotating dance faculty
- 2016 **Guest Teacher | Scripps College**
Taught advanced modern and movement improvisation guest classes in dance department
- 2013-2015 **Graduate Teaching Assistant | California Institute of the Arts**
Taught beginning contemporary technique and composition to BFA & MFA students, Curated/Taught Choreo/Performance Lab for School of Dance, TA/Substitute advanced composition, TA Production tech & Wardrobe, Taught warm-up classes to dance majors prior to dance school productions
- 2012 **Teaching Artist | Soul Lab Dance Project**
Taught advanced contemporary technique for Dance Lab workshop series.
- 2011-2013 **Dance Director | YWCA Santa Monica/Westside**
Taught beginning and intermediate contemporary and hip hop to middle school students. Choreographed works performed in bi-annual youth showcase
- 2009 **Dance Teacher | Adderley School of Performing Arts**
Taught intermediate contemporary and hip hop.

Independent Choreography

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- 2017 *Screaming Shapes*

- Commissioned by Peter S Shin. 3 performers. 5 min. Original Music by Peter S Shin.
Venue: ArtShare LA
- 2017 ***The Other Side***
Debut performance of Iris Company. 9 performers. 60 min. Original Music by Justin Scheid, Venues: Gramercy Studios, Lummi Day Festival (excerpt). Full set, video design, costume design. Immersive dance theater performance based on social science experiments, exploring divisiveness and the potential for collective healing.
- 2017 ***Boiling Point***
2 performers. 8 min. Original Music by Peter S. Shin. Venue: ARC Pasadena. Created at 2017 Cohan Collective Residency.
- 2015-2016 ***Siren***
5 dancers. 20 min. Original Music by Justin Scheid. Venues: Highways Performance Space, *New Shoes 6*, Presented by Patrick Kennelly (2015); Fiesta Hall, *Women Manifest Project*, Presented by Tina Banchemo (2016). Inspired by the Sirens and Narcissus of Greek Mythology, this piece examines what happens when one is faced with the most enticing of temptations.
- 2015 ***Bloody Mary***
2 performers. 10 min (on loop). Venue: ArtShare LA. Part of *Kiss of Death* presented by The Illyrian Players. Immersive physical theater piece exploring the devastation of loss caused by police brutality.
- 2015 ***Something Sweet***
2 dancers. 12 min. Venue: Women's Center for Creative Work. Presented by homeLA. An immersive piece in a kitchen, where the lines between baking and dancing and blurred.
- 2015 ***Waiting Room***
3 dancers, 7 min. Original Music by Justin Scheid. Venues: REDCAT, Sharon Disney Lund Theater. A character piece about the strange interactions that can take place between strangers in public places.
- 2015 ***Lock & Key***
6 dancers, 40 min. Original Music by Justin Scheid, Full set, video design, costume design. Venue: Sharon Disney Lund Theater. MFA Thesis exploring the multifaceted theme of a cage, both as a physical space and as psychologically constructed limitation.
- 2014 ***Excess Nothing***
5 dancers, 10 min. Sound design created and performed live by Eric Singleton. Venue: California Institute of the Arts Main Gallery. This gallery performance investigates consumerism, an aggressive and physically charged piece in which each performer is obsessively driven by greed.
- 2014 ***Illuminations***
3 dancers, 8 min. Original Music by Jeronimo Rajchenberg. Venue: Sharon Disney Lund Theater. With projection onto bodies and screens, and use of shadow play, this work explored the many layers of self that can be both visible and invisible in an individual.
- 2013 ***Liminality***
5 dancers, 6 min. Sound mix by Sophia Stoller. Venue: Sharon Disney Lund Theater. A work investigating the uncertainty and questioning that takes place during a transition.
- 2011 ***Why/Because***
3 dancers, 5 min. Sound mix by Sophia Stoller. Venue: Zichri Theater, Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company *Nizozot Showcase*. A work exploring idiosyncrasies of movement, surprise through randomness, and contrast.
- 2010 ***Land of our Mothers***
5 dancers, 5 min. Sound mix by Sophia Stoller. Venue: Zichri Theater, Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company *Nizozot Showcase*. Inspired by the novel The Red Tent, this piece explored female empowerment derived from a connection with the earth.
- 2010 ***Mind Full***
13 dancers, 10 min. Sound design by Sophia Stoller. Venue: Glorya Kaufman Dance Theatre. A piece about meditation and the challenges one faces when trying to quiet the mind.

Choreography for Soul Lab Dance Project

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- 2013 ***Chrysalis***
5 dancers, 40 min. Sound mix by Sophia Stoller & Marina Magalhaes, Live singing by Lauren Gould. Venue: Bootleg Theater. Choreographed in collaboration with Soul

2013	Lab Dance Project. An interactive dance theater performance seamlessly weaving dance, spoken word, and singing, this piece explores the theme of being on the brink. Still Breath 4 dancers, 6 min. Sound mix by Sophia Stoller. Venues: Electric Lodge, <i>MAX 10 Series</i> (May) & Mimoda Theater, <i>In the Lab</i> (March). A piece commenting on a lackluster existence, and awakening one's desires to live life to the fullest.
2012, 2011	Why/Because 6 dancers, 5 min. Sound mix by Sophia Stoller. Venues: Ports O Call Village, <i>TriArt Festival</i> (September 2012), Blankenship Ballet at Alexandria Hotel, Show Box LA's <i>Anatomy Riot</i> (September 2011). A further developed version of the trio performed in Israel, exploring idiosyncrasies of movement, surprise through randomness, and contrast.
2012	Sabress: Land of our Mothers 7 dancers, 20 min. Sound mix by Sophia Stoller. Venues: Robert B. Moore Theater, <i>So-Cal Dance Invitational</i> , Japanese-American Cultural Center, <i>Vox Sunday Showcase Series</i> . An extended work investigating the dualities of Israeli culture through the metaphor of a cactus, sharp on the outside and soft and sweet on the inside.
2012	Sabra 6 dancers, 5 min. Sound mix by Sophia Stoller. Venues: Sally Fields Performing Arts Center. A short work investigating the dualities of Israeli culture through the metaphor of a cactus, sharp on the outside and soft and sweet on the inside.

Choreography for Film

2016	BLUA Directed by Carolina Charry Q, featuring choreography by Sophia Stoller. Currently in 2017 SlamDance Festival.
2016	Megastar Promo Video One of 5 featured artists in video promoting new talent competition. Choreography by Sophia Stoller, Produced by Manifeste Marketing. 8 performers
2016	Sony Commercial Choreography by Sophia Stoller. Produced by Kontent Films. 3 performers
2015	You and the Moth Choreography by Sophia Stoller. Short narrative film written & directed by Geri Ulrey, 2 performers
2015	Relapse Deebes & Jarell Perry Music Video Commissioned by Jarell Perry Choreography by Sophia Stoller, Creative Direction by Yoshino, 3 dancers
2015	Assembly Created for Soul Lab Dance Project Direction by Peter Gould, Choreography & editing by Sophia Stoller, Original Music by Peter Gould, 5 dancers
2014	Dance with Deer Commissioned by CalArts-Earthfire Residency Direction, choreography, performance, editing by Sophia Stoller, Cinematography by Lydia Marie Hicks & Carolina Charry Q, Original Music by Jeronimo Rajchenberg
2014	Excess Nothing Direction, choreography, editing by Sophia Stoller, Sound design by Eric Singleton & Sophia Stoller, 5 dancers
2013	Imaginary City Direction, choreography, editing by Sophia Stoller, Sound Design by Peter Gould, 3 dancers

Performance for Stage and Film

Live Performance:

2015	LA Contemporary Dance Company Flash mob choreographed by Andrew Pearson. Venue: Loews Hotel. Booking: Book a FlashMob.com
2011-2013	Soul Lab Dance Project

Performed works by Marina Magalhaes (*She is Both, Try It On: Cronicas of Power*), Jena McRae (*Ah-sah-see*), Kristin Killacky (*Release*), Lauren Gould (*That Time*), Stephanie Castro (*In Lak'ech*)
Select venues include: Highways Performance Space, Nokia Theater L.A. Live, Electric Lodge, Bootleg Theater, Mimoda Theater

- 2013 **Union Project Dance Company**
Performed work by Mariana Olivera (X)
- 2013 **In/Ex Dance Project**
Performed work by Sarri Sanchez, Ally Voye, Maya Zellman (*Luck, Hope and Semi-Madness WIP*)
- 2012-2013 **Nickerson-Rossi Dance**
Performed works by Michael Nickerson-Rossi (*Given, Remembering the Unremembered*)
- 2010-2011 **Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company (Apprenticeship program)**
Performed works by Rami Be'er (*Aide Memoire, 360, 60 Hertz, Foramen Magnum*), Mats Ek (*Swan Lake, Giselle*), Barak Marshall (*Monger*), Sharon Vaisvaser (*Birds*)

Film Performance:

- 2016 **BLUA**
Directed by Carolina Charry Q
- 2016 **Megastar Promo Video**
Directed by Peter Amodeo Gould
- 2016 **Out of the Dark, Into the Light**
Written and Directed by Constance Strickland
- 2014 **Lost Tribes Productions**
Directed by Luis Perez
- 2014 **Soul Lab Dance Project**
Directed by Peter Gould, Choreography by Sophia Stoller
- 2014 **Buzzfeed What Is Motion?**
Creative Direction by Kayvan Ghavim, Choreography by Marina Magalhaes
- 2014 **Roberta Shaw Independent Project**
Choreography and Direction by Roberta Shaw
- 2013 **Emazing Lights Promo**
Directed by Clyde Bessey

Video Editing

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- 2017 **IMA IMA**
Directed by Marina Magalhaes. Edited by Sophia Stoller & Peter Amodeo Gould.
Selected to be included in The 4th Annual N.C. Triad Choreography Showcase: An Evening of Dance on Film & LA Dance Shorts Film Festival
- 2017 **EGO**
Directed by Oren Kaya Dayan. Edited by Sophia Stoller & Peter Amodeo Gould.
Received the 2017 Zero LA Grand Jury Award
- 2016 **Elegant Decay**
Edited by Sophia Stoller & Peter Amodeo Gould. Placed in the top 5 of the Megastar Talent Competition beta

Teaching Competencies/Interests

All ages
Composition
Contemporary/modern technique
Improvisation
Hip Hop
Jazz
Creative Movement

Leadership and Administration

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- 2011-2013 **Co-Founder/Co-Artistic Director | Soul Lab Dance Project**
Secured performance opportunities, managed marketing, web page, and self-production of performances and community events

- 2011-2013 **Assistant Dance Education Coordinator | Gabriella Charter School**
Dance-themed K-8 charter school in Los Angeles, CA
Developed curricula, produced large-scale student performances at Bovard Auditorium, coordinated outreach partnerships with companies including LA Dance Project, Ailey II Company, BodyTraffic, Ate9 Dance Company, Heidi Duckler Dance Theater, Diavolo Dance Theater
- 2011-2013 **Girl Central Dance Director | YWCA Santa Monica/Westside**
After school dance program for middle school girls promoting empowerment through dance
Coordinated and produced performances at local community events
- 2013 **Panelist | Dance Career Day | Cortines High School**
Shared experience as a working dance artist in Los Angeles

Training

KCDC Apprenticeship Program	Rami Be'er, Mika Webber
Modern	Illana Kalef, Colin Connor, Cheng-Chieh Yu, Maria Gillespie, Julie Bour, Rebecca Lemme, Andre Tyson
Ballet	Yamit Kalef, Yehuda Ma'or, Hesen Weiren
Gaga	Lotem Regrev
Composition	Victoria Marks, David Rousseve, Stephan Koplowitz, Colin Connor
House/Hip Hop	Rennie Harris, Hassan Christopher, Christopher Bautista, Gerald Espinosa
Improvisation	Yuko Harada, Rebecca Lemme
LACDC Summer Intensive	Kate Hutter, Gina Starbuck, Mecca Vazie Andrews
Yoga	Bryan Kest, Kishan Shah, Anaswara, Vytas Baskauskas
Forsythe Technologies	Stephan Koplowitz
Laban Movement Analysis	Ed Groff

Choreographic Residencies

2017	Cohan Collective Choreographer Composer Residency, Directed by Robert Cohan
2016	PDG Space Grant
2015	Hothouse UCLA
2014	CalArts-Earthfire Residency

Rehearsal Direction

2014	Eleven Choreographed by Zoe Scofield 14 dancers, 14 min. Venues: Sharon Disney Lund Theater & Redcat Theater
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Volunteerism

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- 2007-2010 **Student Support Coordinator/Counselor | Camp Kesem at UCLA**
Camp counselor and counselor training coordinator for children whose families have been impacted by cancer, taught dance classes to kids of all ages
- 2006-2010 **Teen Advisor/Counselor | UCLA Unicamp**
Camp counselor and teen mentor for kids from low-income families living in Los Angeles

Additional Skills

Film Editing	Final Cut Pro 7, Adobe Premiere
Music Editing/Sound Design	Logic Pro, Garageband
Web Design	Wix
Other Software	Word, Excel, Pages

Awards/Scholarships

2013-2015	CalArts Scholarship
2013	Dance Teacher of the Year Award, Gabriella Charter School
2010	UCLA Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society
2006-2010	UCLA Regents Scholarship