

**Thomas L. Vacanti**  
***Curriculum Vitae***

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**EDUCATION**

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**Smith College**

MFA in Dance Performance and Composition. 2004.

Thesis: *Stringendo*: An Investigation of Romanticism in Visual Art and Dance

**Skidmore College, University Without Walls**

BS in Dance. 2002.

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

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2017-present

**University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA**

Associate Professor of Dance

Director of the Dance Program (2016- present)

2011- 2017

**University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA**

Assistant Professor of Dance

Co-Director of the Dance Program (2014- 2016)

2009-2011

**University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA**

Full Time Lecturer in Dance

2006-2008

**University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA**

Full Time Lecturer in Dance

**RECENT COMMISSIONED WORKS, FESTIVALS, AND ORIGINAL CHOREOGRAPHY**

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Below are descriptions of my solo, duet, and group choreographic works. All are grouped in order of the performance venue and performance date.

**Cape Dance Festival (July 24, 2016)**

Cape Dance festival is a curated series of performances that bring professional dance to Cape Cod each summer.

Work presented:

***Hamhock and Tenderloin***

2 Dancers

Score: Turco/Verdi

Length: 5 minutes

**Green Street Studios, Cambridge MA (June 10-11, 2016).**

**AND**

**Center for Performance Research, NYC (June 17, 2016)**

Work Presented:

***Bird\****

6 Dancers

Score: Various

\*Sponsored in part by UMass Amherst College of Humanities and Fine Arts' Projects Fund Grant.

***Interludium***

2 Dancers

Score: Billy Cowie, Santiago de Murcia

Length: 8 min

**Peridance APAP Showcase, NYC (2016)**

Work presented:

***Proverb***

1 Dancer

Score: Michael Torke

Length: 5 minutes

**Appearances: Provincetown Green Arts Festival (2015)**

5th International Eco-Art Festival

Major national, regional and international artists, scientist, and naturalists participate in APPEARANCES.

Work presented:

***Arena***

3 Dancers

Score: Tim Hecker

Length: 12 minutes

**Peridance APAP Showcase, NYC (2015)**

Work presented:

***Hamhock and Tenderloin***

2 Dancers

Score: Turco/Verdi

Length: 5 minutes

***University Dancers at UMass Amherst***

University Dancers - annual faculty concert in the UMass Amherst Dance Program

Recent Works created:

***Peril in Thine Eye (2016)***

20 Dancers

Score: Prokofiev and various artists

Length: 45 minutes

**Valse et la Polonaise (2015)**

16 Dancers

Score: Tchaikovsky

Length: 13 minutes

**RECENT RESIDENCIES AND INVITED MASTER CLASSES**

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**Five-Week Performance Program 2017**

Berklee College of Music

July 9- August 4 2013

Five-week program staging and choreographing musical numbers "CHICAGO"

**Etchings Festival**

Auvillar, France

June 18-28, 2017

**Regional Dance America: National Choreographic Intensive and Conference**

Utah Valley University, Provo UT

July 21-31, 2014

**Graphysiology Contemporary Dance Workshop**

La Ménagerie de Verre, Paris France

July 5-19, 2014

**RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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**EcceArts/ Etchings Festival**

Les Arts'Kad Galerie, Auvillar France

Presented a collaborative untitled dance work with Canadian composer Heather Hindman (Edmonton, Canada)

**International University, Global Theater Experience**

Retzhof Castle- Styria, Austria

***Conference 2015: Theatre Between Tradition and Contemporaneity***Presentation: *Ballet in the Intimate Interactive Performance Space*

Choreographic work presented:

***Arena***

3 Dancers

Score: Tim Hecker

Length: 12 minute

**CORPS de Ballet International*****Conference 2013: From Ballet's Origins to 21st Century Innovations (Paris, France)***

Choreographic work presented:

***Enroulement***

4 Dancers

Score: Kevin Volans

Length: 10 Minutes

\*Commissioned by Festival Ballet Providence

**CORPS de Ballet International*****Conference 2015: Building Bridges: Community, Diversity, and Culture***

Choreographic work presented:

***Arena***

3 Dancers

Score: Tim Hecker

Length: 12 minutes

**American College Dance Association**

Choreographic work adjudicated:

**New England Conference 2015:*****Arena***

3 Dancers

Score: Tim Hecker

Length: 12 minutes

**New England Conference 2016:*****Interludium\****

2 Dancers

Score: Billy Cowie, Santiago de Murcia

Length: 8 min

\* This work was selected as First Alternate for the 2016 National ACDA Conference in Washington DC

**GRANTS**

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| 2017 | University of Massachusetts Amherst, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Project Funds Grant<br>Etchings Festival Residency<br>\$2800 awarded  |
| 2016 | Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship Grant<br>\$1000 awarded<br><br>Easthampton Cultural Council/ Massachusetts Cultural Council<br>Funds Grant<br>Flux ChoreoLab video project<br>\$300 awarded  |
| 2015 | University of Massachusetts Amherst, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Research Presentation<br>Funds award.<br>International University, Global Theater Experience: <i>Ballet in the Intimate Interactive Performance<br/>Space</i><br>\$1500 awarded<br><br>University of Massachusetts Amherst, MSP Research Support Fund<br>International University, Global Theater Experience: <i>Ballet in the Intimate Interactive Performance<br/>Space</i><br>\$1000 awarded |

University of Massachusetts Amherst, MSP Research Support Fund  
*Vacanti Ballets*- Nightingale project  
 \$1000 awarded

University of Massachusetts Amherst, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, Project Funds Grant  
*Vacanti Ballets*- Nightingale project  
 \$2500 awarded

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Center for Teaching and Faculty Development  
 Flex Grant  
 \$500 awarded

Easthampton, Chesterfield, and Pittsfield Cultural Councils/ Massachusetts Cultural Council  
 Funds grant  
*Flux ChoreoLab*  
 \$600 awarded

#### **ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS**

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- 2012 **UMass Amherst Distinguished Teaching Award**
- 2012 **UMass Amherst Residential First Year Experience "Student Choice Award"**
- 2011 **UMass Amherst Residential First Year Experience "Student Choice Award"**

#### **UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST/ DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE**

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**Director of the Dance Program**  
**Department of Music and Dance, 2014-present**

**Executive Committee Member**  
**Five College Dance Department, 2015-present**

**Chair**  
**FT/NTT Guest Artist Search Committee, 2015-16**

**Committee Member-**  
**Search Committee for the FT/TT in Dance Education, 2015-16**

**Committee member-**  
**Department of Music and Dance, Personnel Committee 2014-2016**