

Jennifer Pontius  
Associate Professor of Dance  
Dance Program Coordinator  
Department of Theatre and Dance  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Sam Houston State University

## EDUCATION

- 1996                      Master of Fine Arts, Dance  
Florida State University (Tallahassee, FL)  
*Thesis: A Comparison of Vaganova and Cecchetti Methods of Ballet Training*
- 1990                      Master of Arts, English  
California State University, Dominguez Hills  
*Thesis: A Contrastive Analysis of the Phonologies of English and Russian*
- 1986                      Bachelor of Arts, English (minor in Dance)  
University of Alabama in Birmingham

## TEACHING

- 2001-Present            Sam Houston State University  
Assistant Professor  
[2002-present: Dance Program Coordinator]  
[2005-present: teaching track]  
Department of Theatre and Dance  
Ballet, pointe, modern dance, choreography, repertory, criticism  
and analysis, pedagogy, rhythmic structure of movement
- 1999-2000                Sam Houston State University  
Visiting Professor  
Department of Theatre and Dance  
Ballet, pointe, modern dance, choreography, repertory
- 1997-1999                University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, AL)  
Visiting Professor  
Department of Theatre and Dance  
Ballet, pointe, modern dance, choreography, repertory, dance  
kinesiology, pedagogy
- 1996-1998                Birmingham-Southern College  
Adjunct Faculty  
Dance Department

Ballet, modern

1995-1996 Florida State University  
Graduate Teaching Assistant  
Ballet

1990-1992 South Bay Adult School (Redondo Beach, CA)  
English as a Second Language Instructor  
GED Examiner, Ballet Teacher

## **CHOREOGRAPHY**

- 2008 *Hesperios*, a 10 minute pointe ballet in two sections. Presented at the Mainstage Theatre at the University Theatre Center, SHSU campus, December 2009.
- 2007 *Ocean*, an eight-minute modern dance in six movements, music by Phillippe Reverde. Presented in The Return of Dance Spectrum at the Mainstage Theater at the University Theatre Center, SHSU campus, November 29-December 1.
- 2006 *Roses*, (restaging, premiere 2004), a pointe ballet in four sections. Presented at the Mainstage Theatre at the University Theatre Center, SHSU campus, March 27-29, 2006.
- 2005 *In Time*, presented for adjudication, at the South Central Region of The American College Dance Festival in Edmond, Oklahoma, March 11, 2005.
- Deux Images, La Serene, La Passione*, presented in Dance Spectrum at the University Theatre Centre, Sam Houston State University, April 28-30.
- 2004 ....*in time*....Dance Spectrum in Concert, December 2-4, 2004, SHSU University Theater Center, Mainstage.
- 2004 *Roses*, Dance Spectrum, SHSU Dance Theater, April 22-24
- 2003 *Ensemble!* Dance Spectrum in Concert, SHSU University Theatre Center, Mainstage, November 20-22, 2003
- 2002 *Dreams*, Dance Spectrum in Concert, SHSU University Theatre Center, Mainstage, November 14-16, 2002
- 2000 *Centerpointe*, Arrivaltown, Raven Dance Project performance on the Huntsville town square

*Alleyhoist*, Arrivaltown, Raven Dance Project performance on the  
Huntsville town square

*Trio*, Alabama Repertory Dance Company, The University of Alabama,  
Tuscaloosa, AL

1998 *Strung*, Alabama Repertory Dance Company, Moody Hall, The University  
of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

*Strung*, Alabama Repertory Dance Company, Gala Performance  
Southeastern American College Dance Festival, Jacksonville, FL

1997 *Journey*, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, AL

*Tryptich*, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham. AL

1996 Extreme Range of Motion, my thesis concert, Florida State University  
*Vientos Verdes*, *Beguiled*

#### **STAGING OF CLASSICAL REPERTORY**

2008 The Peasant Pas de Deux, Act I, *Giselle*, and *Pas de Quatre*. University  
Theatre Center, Mainstage, May 2008.

2002 The Peasant Pas de Deux, Act I, *Giselle*, Dance Spectrum in Concert,  
SHSU University Theatre Center, Mainstage, November 14-16

2002 *Pas de Quatre*, Dance Spectrum in Concert, SHSU University Theatre  
Center, Mainstage

#### **REHEARSAL DIRECTION**

2006 *The Nutcracker*, choreography by Dana Nicolay. Presented at the  
Mainstage Theatre at the University Theatre Center, SHSU campus,  
November 28-December 3, 2006. Rehearsed divertissements for between  
10-12 hours per week for 10 weeks including: The Snow Scene, Waltz of  
the Flowers, Mirletons, The Grand Pas de Deux, Arabian, Spanish,  
Clowns, and Chinese.

2003 *Cinderella*, choreography by Dana Nicolay, Dance Spectrum in Concert,  
SHSU University Theatre Center, Mainstage, May 1-3

2001 *The Nutcracker*, choreography by Dana Nicolay, Dance Spectrum in  
Concert, SHSU University Theatre Center, Mainstage, May 1-3

1999            *The Nutcracker*, choreography by Dana Nicolay, Dance Spectrum in Concert, SHSU University Theatre Center, Mainstage, May 1-3

## **PERFORMANCE**

2003            Performance, with “Kista Tucker Dance Company” October 2-4, 2003, The Cunningham Studio, New York, New York.

2003            *The Secret*, choreography by Kista Tucker, Whispers and Shouts from the House of Ruby, SHSU Dance Theatre, March 27-29

2001            *Centerpointe*, Raven Dance Project, SHSU Dance Theatre

1999            *Trio*, Alabama Repertory Dance Company, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Dance            *Rhapsody in Blue*, choreography by Edie Barnes, Alabama Repertory Company, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

1997            *Tryptich*, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham. AL

*Les Sylphides*, staged by Mira Popovich, Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham. AL

1996            Extreme Range of Motion, my thesis concert, Florida State University

1994-96        Florida State University,  
Dance Department  
Diverse original choreography and reconstruction of standard repertory by faculty and graduate students in the dance department

1992-93        South Bay Ballet (Torrance, CA)  
Diane Lauridsen, Artistic director  
Original choreography by Lauridsen

Donna Sternberg and Dancers (Los Angeles, CA)  
Original choreography by Sternberg

1986-87        Charles Edmondson, (Los Angeles, CA)  
Original choreography by Edmondson

1986            Pacific Dance Ensemble  
Danielle Shapiro, Artistic Director  
Choreography commissioned from high profile modern dance artists, including mark Taylor, Elizabeth Law, and Gilberte Meunier

- 1985            Ilona Vera Instructional Ballet  
Towbridge Productions, Los Angeles, CA  
Commercial video demonstrating the Vaganova technique
- 1981-83        Birmingham-Southern College (Birmingham, AL)  
Dance Department  
Diverse original choreography and reconstruction of standard repertory by  
                faculty in the dance department
- 1976-79        The Birmingham Ballet, Birmingham, AL  
Alfonso Figueroa, Artistic Director  
Original choreography by Figueroa

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

- 2002-present  Dance Program Coordinator  
Department of Theatre and Dance  
Sam Houston State University