

# Tara Lee Burns

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## Biography

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Tara moved to New York City in July 2006 and has since worked and continues to work with Adele Myers, Alexandra Beller, Andrea Haenggi and Hal Eager at Dance Theater Workshop, white road Dance Media, Troika Ranch, Dance New Amsterdam and others as a dancer, technician, publicist, production assistant, graphic designer, webmaster and manager.

Tara received her MA in Digital Performance in August 2006 at Doncaster College, UK. After her return from across the pond, she immediately began as a Guest Artist of the University of Florida, teaching modern technique and digital composition classes while creating “Throwing Amusement”, a dance and projection piece, with MOD, the university’s repertory company. In early 2006, Tara joined Voci Dance Company of Orlando, FL and performed in Moving Current’s emerging choreographers showcase in May 2006.

While in England, Tara had the opportunity to dance with Palindrome Inter.media Dance Group throughout Germany, and Kathinka Walter, which culminated in a performance at The Place, London. Tara graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Florida with a BFA in Dance, December of 2003. While at UF she has worked closely with Adele Myers and Kelly Drummond Cawthon with The Peoples Touring Project and The Florida MOD Project. Tara has worked on various dance and technology projects with The Digital Worlds Institute interactively connecting live and working with dancers in Korea, South America, Australia and England. Other technologies she has worked with include motion-sensing, projections, sensor technologies, motion tracking and sound triggering manipulations. Her work with Aerial dance in various projects using the circular trapeze, Spanish web, and silk allowed her to perform “Miss Julie” at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2003 in Scotland.

## Education

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### MA Digital Performance

Hull University accredited Doncaster University Centre, UK, 2004 – 2006

### BFA Dance Performance, Summa cum Laude

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 2003

University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL, 1999 – 2001

Valencia Community College, Orlando, FL, 2000 – 2001

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, 1998 – 1999

Eustis High School, Eustis, FL, Graduated 1998

## Featured Credits

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|---------------------------|--|
| July 2006 - Present       | Adele Myers and Dancers, Dancer & Company Manager      |
| September 2006 – Present  | Alexandra Beller/Dances, Company Manager               |
| September – November 2007 | Dance New Amsterdam, Press & Publicity Consultant, NYC |

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|---|--|
| September 2006 –<br>July 2007               | Kelley Donovan & Dancers, Dancer, Cunningham Studios, Boston and<br>Joyce SoHo   |
| July 2006 -<br>October 2006<br>& April 2007 | AMDaT (visual motion construction), Production Assistant, Dance<br>Theater Workshop  |
| August 2006 -<br>February 2007              | white road Dance Media, Dancer, Joyce SoHo   |
| January – June 2006                         | Voci Dance Company, Performer and Choreographer  |
| August – November<br>2005                   | Guest Artist Residency, University of Florida, creating “Throwing<br>Amusement” & teaching Adv. & Int. Modern technique and<br>composition with technology, FL |
| October 2004 – June<br>2005                 | Tutor/Professor, Modern Technique 1 for Dance Track Students   |
| October 2004 – May<br>2005                  | Kathinka Walter, Dancer, The Place, London   |
| October – December<br>2004                  | Palindrome Inter.media Dance Group, Dancer, UK and Germany   |
| February – March<br>2004                    | “Miroir,” UF Theater and Dance Department,<br>Rehearsal Director and Consultant to Tche Tche’s Beatrice Kombe, FL  |
| August – December<br>2003                   | The University of Florida’s Repertory Company,<br>The Florida MOD Project, Asst. Director and Rehearsal Director to<br>Kelly Cawthon, FL                       |
| December<br>2003                            | "Exposed Rhythm," Director, University of Florida, FL  |
| August – November<br>2002                   | “Navigating Gravity,” Digital Worlds Institute, Asst. to the<br>Director/Choreographer Kelly Dipple, FL  |

## Dance Technology Performance and Research

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### **Troika Ranch Intern** – August – September 2007

As an opportunity to work directly with Mark Coniglio and Dawn Stoppiello, the creators of Isadora Projection Software. I helped with everything from screen creation and design to web applications and designing/creating marketing materials. The work commenced in 3 weeks of performance in September 2007 at 3LD, NYC.

### **AMDaT, Production Assistant** – July – October 2006

Worked directly with artistic director Andrea Haengi to create a cinematic experience ranging from video projection, live feeds, live video direction with live dancers and projected dancers. Commissioned by Dance Theater Workshops European Dream Festival 2006

**Adele Myers and Dancers – July 2006**

During a residency at MANCC, Florida State University, we began researching a ‘world gone fabulous’ and designing projections and projection surfaces, using shadows and creating a world the audience can inhabit.

**Throwing Amusement - Oct 2005**

Commissioned by the University of Florida to be performed by The Florida MOD Project. Dancer's configuration and movements were mimicked by projections of roller coasters and amusement park games using Isadora software. Projections designed by Tara Burns and the choreography was a collaboration by Tara Burns and Melissa Canto. The work was performed throughout Central Florida by MOD.

**Shadows - July 2005**

A dialogue between dancer's and projections through Eyecon and Isadora softwares. Research of this piece culminated in a thesis entitled "The Spaces Between." The choreographers were performers, interactive technicians, and crew for the show.

Doncaster, UK

**(ME)dia - May 2005**

Works in progress showing

Performance excerpts by Tara Burns, Kate Sicchio, Elizabeth MacKinnon, & Margarita Osepyan. The choreographers were performers, interactive technicians, and crew for the show.

Doncaster University Centre, UK

**The Ultimate MA Experience - March 2005**

A works in progress showing focusing on our individual MA research.

Choreographers & Performers: Kate Sicchio, Elizabeth MacKinnon, Tara Burns, & Margarita Osepyan. The choreographers were performers, interactive technicians, and crew for the show.

Doncaster University Centre, UK

**Hands Across the Ocean – February 2005 – Multi-Casting Access Grid Technologies fuel “The Lost Cord;”** a girl visits different worlds exploring musical genres from each location including Korea, Florida, England, Australia, and Chile.

**Non-Divisi – 2003 – Ariel and Dance and Technology with the Digital Worlds Institute connecting live with Korea (Multi-Casting Access Grid Technologies) Gainesville, FL**

**Navigating Gravity – 2002 - Kelly Dipple creating live performances with England, Australia, and the University of Florida along with The Digital Worlds Institute**

**Dancing Beyond Boundaries - 2001– Shapiro and Smith Dance and Kelly Cawthon, Minnesota University, and University of Florida Dancers hosted by The Digital Worlds Institute at the Supercomputing Global Conference 2001**

**“The Seed” – Dance Theater with Aurturo Sinclair, interactively connecting live with Columbian musicians**

**University Scholars Research and Publication - 2002 – 2003**

“Dance across Boundaries: Choreography Incorporates Digital Media”

Published in the University of Florida’s Journal of Undergraduate Research

## Awards, Grants, Scholarships

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Doncaster College Scholarship, UK  
Florida Theatrical Scholar  
Featured Scholar, Journal of Undergraduate Research, UF  
American Dance Festival Scholar  
American Dance Festival Intern  
Outstanding Senior Award, UF  
University Scholars Best Paper Award  
Florida Dance Festival Scholarship  
Constans Theater and Dance Scholarship  
Mount Dora Center for the Arts Dance Scholarship

## Teaching Experience

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Guest Artist, Connecticut College, CT  
Composition with technology, 2007

Guest Artist, Peridance, NYC  
Advanced Modern Technique, 2006

Guest Artist, University of Florida Department of Theatre and Dance, FL  
Intermediate and Advanced Modern Technique, 2005  
Composition III and Repertory

Doncaster University Centre, UK  
Tutor/Professor, Modern Technique 1 for Dance Track students, 2005

Educational Outreach, Triangle Elementary School Kindergarten, Mt. Dora, FL – 2004, 2006

Educational Outreach, Rimes Elementary School First Grade, Leesburg, FL – 2003

Florida Middle School Dance Festival, Jacksonville, FL - Modern Technique – 2003

Studio 19 Centre for the Performing Arts, Eustis, FL  
Modern and Repertory, ages 12 – 18, 2003, 2004  
Ballet, Modern, Hip-Hop, and Jazz, ages 7 – adult, 1999 – 2001  
Ballet and Modern, ages 4 – 7, 1997 – 1998

D. C. Studio, Eustis, FL - Assistant Ballroom Dance Instructor, 1997 – 1998

## Choreographic Experience

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|------------|---|
| October-06 | “Just One More Step”<br>Voci Dance Company’s Out of the Box, FL   |
| May-06     | “Behind Raggedy Ann’s Smile”<br>Voci Dance Company, The Orlando International Fringe Festival, FL                                       |
| May-06     | “Alien Nostalgia”<br>NewGrounds Choreographers Showcase 2006, Tampa, FL   |
| October-05 | “Throwing Amusement”<br>Created in collaboration with Melissa Canto as a guest artist commission and set on The Florida MOD Project, FL |

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|-------------|---|
| June-05     | “Shadows”<br>Created with the use of softwares (EyeCon & Isadora), with 5 projection screens to create digital shadows juxtaposed with live shadows, UK |
| October-04  | “Tonal Memory”<br>Solo using EMG sensors, creating sounds by muscle intensity, UK   |
| April-04    | “Coming out of pins and needles” (extension of ‘Drain’)<br>Solo, Under Construction, FL   |
| March-04    | “Drain”<br>Solo, Harn Museum of Art, FL   |
| March-04    | "Seeing Red"<br>American College Dance Festival, GA   |
| December-03 | "Seeing Red"<br>Exposed Rhythm, FL  |
| July-03     | "Untitled"<br>American Dance Festival, NC   |
| December-03 | "as I lay..."<br>Off the Edge, FL   |
| April-03    | "Enterrelations"<br>Blender, FL   |

## Residencies/Workshops

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Australian Dance Theatre – 2004 – Repertory, Technique

Beatrice Kombe – 2002, 2003, 2004 – Repertory, Technique, and Performance

American Dance Festival – 2003 - Gerri Houlihan and Tatiana Baganova – Technique  
David Dorfman and Paul Matteson - Repertory

American Dance Festival – 2004 – David Dorfman and Abey Yager – Technique; Technical crew for ADF professional guest performers

David Ward – 2003 – Repertory, “Tango y No”

Omagbitse Omagbemi – 2002 – Repertory and Technique

“Rightside – Upsidedown” – 2002 – Stephanie Carter, Kelly Cawthon, Philip Pegler-Burnham -  
Technique and Improvisation

Michael Foley – 2001, 2002 – Repertory and Technique

Foofwa D’Imbolite & Banu Ogan – 2001 - Cunningham Repertory, Technique and Performance

Russel Sultzback – 1999, 2000 – Classical

## Ariel Dance

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“**Miss Julie**” Theater and Dance collaboration, Circular Trapeze and Spanish Web

Directed by Judith Williams, Choreographed by Kelly Cawthon

Performed at the University of Florida, April 17 – 18, & August 5 – 6, 2003 and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, August 11 – 16, 2003

## **“Through the Looking Glass”** in *Freefall*, Circular Trapeze

Choreographed by Kelly Cawthon and Dancers

Ariel Consultant, Lynn Polk

## **“Stuck”** The Peoples Touring Project, Circular Trapeze

Choreographed by Kelly Cawthon and Adele Myers

### Master Classes

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Australian Dance Theatre, Peter DiMuro and Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Jeanne Durnning, Doug Elkins, Miguel Gutierrez, Bill T. Jones and Company, Demetrius Klein, Lines Ballet, Alonzo King, David Parsons, Pilobolus, Claire Porter, Jan de Schynkel, Martha Myers, Lisa Race

### Festivals

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American College Dance Festival, 2004  
American Dance Festival, 2003 and 2004  
Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 2003  
American College Dance Festival, 2003  
American College Dance Festival, 2002  
Florida Dance Festival, 2002  
American College Dance Festival, 2001

### Software Knowledge

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#### Website maintenance & Graphic Design

[www.taraleeburns.com](http://www.taraleeburns.com) (2002 – present); [www.whiteroadaddancemedia.com](http://www.whiteroadaddancemedia.com) (2006 – present)

[www.vocidance.org](http://www.vocidance.org) (2005 - present); [www.modproject.org](http://www.modproject.org) (2002-2003)

Microsoft Office Suite, Microsoft Money, Photoshop, Illustrator, Quark, InDesign, Dreamweaver, Final Cut Pro, Premiere, Eyecon motion sensing & Sensor Hardware Technologies, Isadora & Projection technologies, Maya, PC and MacOS familiar.

### Performance Chronology

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|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| October-07  | Adele Myers and Dancers,<br>Dance New Amsterdam, NYC                    |
| July-07     | AMDaT,<br>Blast wall art (Sight Specific), Performer, NYC               |
| July-13     | And Dancers...<br>Collective Unconscious, NYC                           |
| June-07     | Adele Myers and Dancers<br>International Festival of Arts and Ideas, CT |
| May-07      | Adele Myers and Dancers<br>In Good Company, New Haven, CT               |
| April-07    | Adele Myers and Dancers<br>Greenwich Academy, CT                        |
| April-07    | Kelley Donovan & Dancers<br>Boston, MA                                  |
| February-07 | White road Dance Media  |

Joyce SoHo, NYC

January-07 Kelley Donovan & Dancers  
Cunningham Studios, NYC

June-06 Adele Myers and Dancers  
MANCC Residency, Florida State University

October-06 "Just One More Step"  
Voci Dance Company's Out of the Box, FL

June-06 "Happenstance"  
Voci Dance Company, FL

May-06 "Behind Raggedy Ann's Smile"  
Voci Dance Company, The Orlando International Fringe Festival, FL

May-06 "Alien Nostalgia"  
NewGrounds with Moving Currents Dance Company, Tampa, FL

May-06 "Paint Chips"  
Voci Dance Company, FL

December-05 "Throwing Amusement"  
Choreography: Tara Burns & Melissa Canto, Orlando, FL

October-05 "Throwing Amusement"  
Choreography: Tara Burns & Melissa Canto, Gainesville, FL

June-05 "She'll Never Tell" & "Mirrored Windows"  
Choreography: Kate Sicchio & Elizabeth MacKinnon

May-05 "(ME)dia" (Work in Progress Showing)  
Choreography: Kate Sicchio, Elizabeth MacKinnon  
Doncaster University Centre, UK

February-05 "Cutting!"  
Choreography: Kathinka Walter  
The Place, London, UK

December-04 "Heartbeats"  
Palindrome Inter.media Dance Group  
Choreography: Helena Zwiauer; Interactive Systems: Frieder Weiss  
Erfurt University, Germany

December-04 "Trio"  
Palindrome Inter.media Performance Group  
Choreography: Robert Wechsler; Interactive Systems: Frieder Weiss  
Erfurt University, Germany

November-04 "Trio"  
Palindrome Inter.media Performance Group  
Choreography: Robert Wechsler; Interactive Systems: Frieder Weiss  
Hamburg, K Studios, Germany

November-04 "Trio"  
Palindrome Inter.media Performance Group  
Choreography: Robert Wechsler; Interactive Systems: Frieder Weiss  
Hellerau International Festival CyNET art\_04, Dresden, Germany

October-04 "Tonal Memory" -- Sensor Technology Based.  
Choreography: Tara Burns  
Doncaster, UK

May-04 "Bright Lights"  
Choreography: Melissa Canto  
Moving Current's New Grounds 2004, Tampa

April-04 "Rhapsody"  
Choreography: Shapiro and Smith,  
Florida Community College at Jacksonville

April-04 "Coming out of pins and needles" A work in progress  
Choreography: Tara Burns, Under Construction, Gainesville

March-04 "Miroir" (Mirror)

March-04 Choreography: Beatrice Kombé, Dance 2004, Gainesville  
 "Rhapsody"  
 March-04 Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, Dance 2004, Gainesville  
 "Rhapsody"  
 March-04 Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville  
 "Drain"  
 March-04 Choreography: Tara Burns, Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville  
 "Seeing Red"  
 March-04 Choreography: Tara Burns, Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville  
 "Seeing Red"  
 March-04 Choreography: Tara Burns, American College Dance Festival, Atlanta  
 "Rhapsody"  
 February-04 Choreography: Shapiro and Smith  
 American College Dance Festival, Atlanta  
 Movement Revolutions Exhibition  
 February-04 Choreography: Beatrice Kombe,  
 Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, Gainesville  
 "Rhapsody"  
 December-03 Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, Project Refuel, Orlando  
 "Bright Lights"  
 December-03 Choreography: Melissa Canto, Exposed Rhythm, Gainesville  
 "Sitting Still"  
 December-03 Choreography: Kendall Dupree, Exposed Rhythm, Gainesville  
 "Seeing Red"  
 November-03 Choreography: Tara Burns, Exposed Rhythm, Gainesville  
 "Cabaret" Kit Kat Girl  
 August-03 Director: Tony Mata, Choreography: Kelly Cawthon, Gainesville  
 "Miss Julie" – Ariel Dance  
 Director: Judith Williams, Choreography: Kelly Cawthon,  
 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Edinburgh, Scotland  
 July-03 "Stuck"  
 The Peoples Touring Project, Bric&Studio, NY  
 July-03 "Stuck"  
 The Peoples Touring Project, New Orleans  
 May-03 "The Lines On My Face"  
 April-03 Choreography: Liza Sharabi, New Grounds 2003, Tampa  
 "Miss Julie" Ariel Dance  
 Director: Judith Williams, Choreography: Kelly Cawthon,  
 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Edinburgh, Scotland  
 April-03 "Walking Through"  
 Choreography: Kendall Dupree, Gainesville  
 April-03 "Paint on Pigtails"  
 Choreography: Melissa Canto, Gainesville  
 April-03 "Moonlight Sonata"  
 March-03 Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, Jacksonville  
 "Tango Y No"  
 March-03 Choreography: David Ward, Miami  
 "Moonlight Sonata"  
 March-03 Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, Freefall, Gainesville  
 "Rhapsody"  
 March-03 Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, Freefall, Gainesville  
 "Ring Cycle"  
 March-03 Choreography: Ric Rose, Freefall, Gainesville  
 "Falling on Lobsters in the Dark"  
 March-03 Choreography: Stephanie Carter, Freefall, Gainesville

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| March-03    | "Through the Looking Glass" - Circular Trapeze<br>Choreography: Kelly Cawthon and Dancers, Freefall, Gainesville            |
| December-02 | "as i lay..."<br>Choreography: Tara Burns, Off the Edge, Gainesville  |
| December-02 | "Tango Y No"<br>Choreography: David Ward, Off the Edge, Gainesville   |
| December-02 | "Soufflé" (Breath)<br>Choreography: Beatrice Kombe, Agbedidi Africa: Tche Tche, Gainesville                                 |
| June-02     | "Autoportraits"<br>Peoples Touring Project, Cunningham Studios, NYC   |
| June-02     | "Beauty Secrets"<br>People's Touring Project, Gainesville   |
| June-02     | "Community In Motion"<br>Peoples Touring Project, Jacksonville  |
| April-02    | "Bitter Suite"<br>Choreography: Kelly Cawthon, Dance 2002, Gainesville  |
| April-02    | "Chaos"<br>Choreography: Beatrice Kombe, Dance 2002, Gainesville  |
| April-02    | "mini-Event"<br>Arranged from works of Merce Cunningham by Foofwa D'Imbolite & Banu Ogan, Cunningham Symposium, Gainesville |
| March-02    | "To Have and To Hold"<br>Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, NHSDF, Miami  |
| December-01 | "Café con Leche"<br>Choreography: Laura Padierno, Five in Concert, Gainesville  |
| December-01 | "Continuum"<br>Choreography: Emily Austin, Five in Concert, Gainesville   |
| December-01 | "Falling Straight Up"<br>Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, Dancing Inside/Out, Miami   |
| December-01 | "Chaos"<br>Choreography: Beatrice Kombe, Dancing Inside/Out, Miami  |
| October-01  | "Prologue"<br>Choreography: Kelly Cawthon, Dancing Inside/Out, Gainesville  |
| October-01  | "Falling Straight Up"<br>Choreography: Shapiro and Smith, Dancing Inside/Out, Gainesville                                   |
| October-01  | "Chaos"<br>Choreography: Beatrice Kombe, Dancing Inside/Out, Gainesville  |

## References

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### **Adele Myers**

Artistic Director, Adele Myers and Dancers & Professor, Connecticut College, [amyers@adelemyersanddancer.com](mailto:amyers@adelemyersanddancer.com)

### **Alexandra Beller/Dances**

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Teacher and owner of Studio 19 Center for the Performing Arts

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**Dr. Judith Williams**

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