

Jessica Fogel, Biography

Jessica Fogel's choreography has been produced nationally and internationally since 1974. She is professor emerita at University of Michigan where she taught for 35 years. She spent a decade in NYC, performing with several companies and choreographers, including Andy DeGroat, Hannah Kahn/Dalienne Majors, Phoebe Neville, and Janet Soares. As artistic director of Jessica Fogel and Dancers in New York City, her dances were acclaimed as “theatrically bold and eloquent...unusually good dances, of remarkable range” (Linda Small, *Dance Magazine*) and as "unusually engrossing works" (Doris Diether, *The Villager*). She was a founding member and artistic director of Ann Arbor Dance Works, where her works garnered critical and popular acclaim. Her multi-layered, interdisciplinary dances feature collaborations with scientists, visual artists, composers, writers, actors, and designers, often merging movement, text, music, and digital projections.

She has created several large-scale site dance works in a range of natural and built environments, drawing inspiration from the stories embedded in the sites and fostering environmental stewardship. Projects in this vein include *Belle Isle and Beyond* (Detroit, 2019); *Into the Wind* (Muskegon, 2014); *Corsets, Grains, & Greenways* (Ann Arbor, 2012); and *Mapping the River* (Ann Arbor, 2008 & 2011.)

Her dances have been produced by, among others, the Euin-In Temple, Japan; Danza Abend, Costa Rica; Dance Theater Workshop, the Riverside Dance Festival, and the Lincoln Center Touring Program, NYC; Anemos Theater, Mykonos, Greece; The Yard, Mass.; and the Toledo Museum of Art. She is the recipient of the Michigan Choreographers Festival Award, a Lifetime of Achievement in the Arts Award from the JCC of Metropolitan Detroit, and an Award of Excellence from the National Fine Arts Video Competition. She has received grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Michigan Council for the Arts, the CETA Artists Project/Cultural Council Foundation of New York, and numerous U-M sources.

She has presented her choreographic research at the Society of Dance History Scholars/Congress for Research on Dance (CORD) conference in Athens, Greece; the CORD conference on Dance and Human Rights in Montreal; at Seika University in Kyoto; and at an international symposium at the University of Surrey. She conducted extensive research on the history of dance at University of Michigan and in 2009 spearheaded *Dancing at 100*, a series of performances, lectures, and exhibits celebrating the centennial of dance courses “on the books” at U-M. At University of Michigan, she served as chair of Dance, as a member of the School of Music, Theatre, & Dance Executive Committee, as director of graduate studies in Dance, and as director of the University of Michigan Summer Dance Institute.

Born and raised in Ithaca, New York, her early training was with the Ithaca Ballet Guild and the Cornell Dance Group. She has a BA in Program in the Arts, Concentration Dance from Barnard College, Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude, and an MA in Dance Education from Teachers College, Columbia University.