

XÉETL'EE / KATELYN STILES

KSSTILES@UCDAVIS.EDU

WWW.KATELYNSTILES.COM

EDUCATION

PhD in Native American Studies, with a Designated Emphasis in Performance and Practice

In Progress University of California, Davis (expected 2025), Committee Chair: Jessica Bissett Perea

MA in Native American Studies

2021 University of California, Davis

BA in Art Practice, Minor degree in Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies

2011 University of California, Berkeley

TRIBAL AFFILIATIONS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Lingít, Raven Moiety, Kiks.ádi Clan of Sheet'ká (Sitka, AK), Herring Lady of Jumping Herring House
Enrolled Citizen of Sitka Tribe of Alaska

Enrolled Citizen of Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Shareholder descendent of Sealaska and Shee Atika Native Corporations

Organizor for Herring Protectors

Dancer of Sheet'k'a K'wáan Dance Group

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

1. **Critical Indigenous Studies**, emphasis on work with, by, and for Southeast Alaska Native artist and activist communities;
2. **Visual and Embodied Sovereignty**, emphasis on fields including filmmaking (e.g., dance cinema and digital storytelling), life drawing, and contemporary dance and improvisation;
3. **Environmental Humanities**, emphasis on intersections between Indigenous arts, subsistence practices as food sovereignty, and Indigenous Science;
4. **Native American Literary Studies**, emphasis on combining textual with more-than-textual ways of engaging Native American ways of being, knowing, and doing.

SELECTED TEACHING & CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

2025 **Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies**, Course Instructor: "Yaaw [Herring]:
Indigenous Food Sovereignty," University of Alaska Southeast, Sitka, Spring Semester.

2024 **Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies**, Course Instructor: "Mindful Learning,"
Curriculum Development: "Indigenous Food Sovereignty," University of Alaska
Southeast, Sitka, Spring Semester.

- 2024 **Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies**, Course Instructor and Designer: “Navigating College: Relationality, Respect & Indigenous Futures” University of Alaska Southeast, Sitka, Fall Semester.
- 2023 **Assistant Professor of Indigenous Studies**, Curriculum Development: “Navigating College: Relationality, Respect & Indigenous Resurgence,” and Course facilitator of “Herring Egg Harvest Apprenticeship” (Co-sponsored course with Herring Protectors for Indigenous Youth learning from Master Harvesters), University of Alaska Southeast, Sitka, Spring Semester.
- 2022 **Associate Instructor & Course Designer**: “Introduction to Native American Literature,” Department of Native American Studies at University of California, Davis, Spring Quarter.
- 2021 **Associate Instructor & Course Designer**: “Introduction to Native American Literature,” Department of Native American Studies at University of California, Davis, Spring Quarter.
- 2021 **Associate Instructor & Course Designer**: “Dance on Camera,” Department of Theatre and Dance at University of California, Davis, Winter Quarter.
- 2021 **Guest Lecture**: “Yáa at wooné: Respect for All Things” in “Native American Religion and Philosophy” with Professor Inés Hernandez-Avila at University of California, Davis. February 25.
- 2020 **Teaching Assistant**: “Introduction to Native American Studies,” Department of Native American Studies at University of California, Davis, Assistant to Dr. Jessica Bissett Perea, Fall Quarter.
- 2020 **Teaching Assistant**: “History of Cinema,” Department of Cinema and Digital Media Studies at University of California, Davis, Assistant to Dr. Fiamma Montezemolo, Winter Quarter.
- 2020 **Guest Lecture**: “Native American Cinema” In “History of Cinema,” Department of Cinema and Digital Media Studies at University of California, Davis. February 19.
- 2019 **Teaching Assistant**: “Introduction to Native American Studies,” Department of Native American Studies at University of California, Davis, Assistant to Dr. Jessica Bissett Perea, Fall Quarter.
- 2018 **Assistant Teacher**, Advanced Contemporary Dance Technique, Impulstanz Festival, Vienna, July.
- 2018 **Drawing Instructor**, Workshop at Sensing In Festival, Berlin, Germany.
- 2017 **Movement and Drawing Instructor**, Workshop at Burg University of Art and Design, Halle, Germany.
- 2016 **Movement and Drawing Instructor**, Workshop at Art Atelier Berlin, Germany.
- 2015 **Movement and Drawing Facilitator**, Workshop at Living Arts Base Catalonia
- 2014 **Video and Movement Lab Facilitator**, Contact Meets Contemporary Dance Festival, Germany

AWARDS AND HONORS

2022-24	Ocean Nexus Visiting Fellow, Equity in Ocean Science Research Fellowship, Earth Lab at University of Washington
2022-24	Featured artist in Traveling Exhibit: “Protection: Adaptation and Resistance.” The Pratt Museum, The Anchorage Museum, Native Arts and Culture Foundation, Tulsa Living Arts, Museum of International Folk Art, Alaska State Museum.
2023	Outer Coast College Artist in Residence
2022	Sitka Tribe of Alaska Higher Education Scholarship
2021	Margrit Mondavi Graduate Fellowship in the College of Letters and Science.
2021	Unhatching Research Grant, HATCH Mellon Research Initiative on Feminist Arts and Sciences.
2020	Mellon Public Scholar Fellowship, UC Davis Humanities Institute.
2020	Honorable Mention for Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship, National Academies of Sciences.
2018	Environmental & Disability Film in Bronze, Global Independent Film Awards, for dance film “Rhizophora.”
2017	Research Academy ZHdK Participant: Performance, Lies and Videotape: Beyond Documentation, Zürich, Switzerland.
2015	Honorable Mention at Society for Visual Anthropology Film and Media Festival, for dance film “Rhizophora.”
2016	EcoVillage Design Certification, Gaia Education Switzerland.
2013	Migration Project Member, Digital Media and Dance, Tanzfabrik Berlin.
2011	Eisner Prize in Film, highest award in the Arts, received for “Moving Self and Other,” dance film, University of California, Berkeley.
2011	Sara Huntsman Sturgess Memorial Prize, Artistic Achievement in Dance, University of California, Berkeley.
2010	Member of Golden Key International Honour Society

SELECTED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS & PERFORMANCE LECTURES

2023	Artist Talk for “Yee eedé tooshí áa/ we sing to you” in the exhibit: Protection: Adaptation and Resistance, Native Arts and Cultures Foundation, Portland, Oregon, May 19th.
2023	Performance and Lecture: “Weaving a basket for my face” work in progress sharing at artist residency, Outer Coast College, Sitka, Alaska, May 9th.
2023	“Yee eedé tooshí áa/ we sing to you” Screening and Q&A Presentation, Naa Kahidi Community House, Sitka, Alaska, February 26th.

- 2021 “Gunahéen[Different Water]: A Portrait Series of Tlingit & Haida Women in Diaspora,” presentation at Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting (NAISA) Virtual Conference, June 14-18.
- 2021 “Improvising within the field of settler colonialism on Indigenous land,” presentation at Future of CI Virtual Conference, Earthdance Massachusetts, April 23.
- 2021 “Improvisation and Diaspora: Gunahéen[Different Water]: A Portrait Series of Tlingit & Haida Women in Diaspora,” presentation at American Indian and Indigenous Collective (AIIC) 2021 Virtual Symposium titled: Native Feminisms: Centering American Indian and Indigenous Land and People, held at University of California, Santa Barbara. February 21.
- 2020 “Tlingit Dance on Camera: Cultural Resiliency Through Video Documentation.” paper accepted for Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting (NAISA) in Toronto, Canada, May 7-9. (Canceled due to Covid19 Pandemic)
- 2020 “Salmon Relations: Mapping Tlingit Cosmologies through Embodied Stories of Returning.” Performance Lecture with film, drawing and dance at The Body As Archive Conference held by AIIC at UCSB, February 19th.
- 2019 “Marking Memory: Ancestral Salmon, a White Christmas and Balletic Traces.” University of California, Davis. Performance Studies Mini Conference. Davis, California. November 22.
- 2017 “The Earth Will Come.” Dance Cinema Panel with filmmakers. RIFF R.E.D. International Film Festival. Eina, Norway. July 29.
- 2017 “Consent and Power Dynamics in Documentation.” Research Academy Zurich University of the Arts. “Beyond Documentation: Performance, Lies, and Videotape.” July 20.

PROFESSIONAL ARTS EXPERIENCE & TRAINING

- 2011 – Present Freelance Filmmaker, specialization in dance documentation, Selected Commissions: Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Theater o.N. Berlin, Tanzfabrik Berlin, House of Poetry Berlin, Hebbel Am Ufer Berlin, Ponderosa Movement & Discovery, NOW! Festival Berlin, Tanztage Berlin, The Instrument, Sensing In Berlin
- 2011 – 2017 Dance Videographer and Editor for Rapt Productions, Selected Clients: San Francisco Ballet, Lines Ballet, Joe Goode Performance Group, ODC, Bandaloop
- 2013 Videographer for Contemporary Dance Archive for German Theater Institute, Funded by Berlin Senate to create Contemporary Dance Video Archive
- 2015 Artist in Residence, Living Arts Base, Catalonia
- 2014 – Present Axis Syllabus Training, Movement Artisans, Berlin
- 2013 Artist in Residence, Ponderosa Movement and Discovery, Stolzenhagen, Germany
- 2012 P.O.R.C.H. Professional Dance Training Program, Ponderosa, Germany
- 2012 La Alternativa Winter Dance Training Program, San Francisco
- 2011 Performer, Joe Goode Performance Group, San Francisco

2011	Joe Goode Performance Group Professional Winter Training Program
2005-2009	Company Member & Performer, Civic Ballet of San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo
2008	San Francisco Conservatory of Dance Winter Training Program, San Francisco
2004	State Street Ballet Summer Dance Intensive, Santa Barbara

SELECTED FILM SCREENINGS

The Earth Will Come. Director, Editor, Cinematographer

2018	Dance Camera West. REDCAT, Los Angeles.
2018	Cinedans Amsterdam. The Eye, Amsterdam.
2017	RIFF R.E.D. International Film Festival. Eina, Norway.
2017	San Francisco Dance Film Festival. Roxie Theater, San Francisco.
2017	Movimiento en Movimiento. Mexico City, Mexico.

Rhizophora. Co-Creator & Editor

2018	Dance on Camera Festival. New York City.
2017	Cinema Touching Disability Film Festival. Austin.
2016	Ethnographic Film Series. Portland.
2016	New Orleans Film Festival. New Orleans.
2016	Loikka Dance Film Festival. Helsinki.
2016	New Orleans Film Festival.
2015	Society for Visual Anthropology Film Festival. Colorado.
2015	San Francisco Dance Film Festival, San Francisco

Tanztage Berlin Dance Film. Director, Editor, Cinematographer

2014	Berliner Fenster, Berlin.
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Moving Self and Other. Director, Editor, Cinematographer

2011	Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley (winner of the Eisner Prize)
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SELECTED PERFORMANCES (as performer)

2011	The Rambler, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, Joe Goode Performance Group
2011	Berkeley Dance Project-Stream, Solo Performance, UC Berkeley
2010	Flying and Falling, UC Berkeley Playhouse, Directed by Joe Goode
2008-2009	Slightest Movements, SLO Little Theater, Choreography: Drew Silvaggio
2008	Spanish, SLO Little Theater, Choreography: Mark Swanhart
2007-2009	Dreams, PAC San Luis Obispo, Choreography: Alex Ketley

2006-2007 Side Walk Stories, PAC San Luis Obispo, Choreography: Drew Silvaggio
2007 China Tour, Civic Ballet of SLO, Shanghai, Wuxi, Nanjing, and Beijing

REFERENCES

Jessica Bissett Perea
Associate Professor and Graduate Advisor, Native American Studies
University of California, Davis
jbperea@ucdavis.edu

Inés Hernández-Ávila
Professor, Native American Studies
University of California, Davis
ighernandez@ucdavis.edu

Joe Dumit
Professor, Anthropology
Professor, Science and Technology Studies
University of California, Davis
jpdumit@ucdavis.edu