

# Paloma McGregor

Artistic Director/Co-Founder Angela's Pulse  
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## **Education**

MFA, Contemporary Dance, May 2004  
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

BS, Newspaper Journalism, May 1996  
Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL

## **Choreography/Performance**

### ***Evening-Length Works***

2022 *Building a Better Fishtrap/ A'we deh ya* (Loophole of Retreat, Venice Biennale)  
2018 *Building a Better Fishtrap/from the river's mouth* (New York Live Arts)  
2016 *Building a Better Fishtrap/Phase 2* (Brooklyn Arts Exchange)  
2015 *Building a Better Fishtrap/Part 1* (Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance/BAAD!)

### ***Community Engaged Projects***

2025 *My Body is a Library* (Harvard Law Library - co-created with Liz Lerman) *A'we deh ya / This Body This Land* (Virginia Commonwealth University - director)  
2018 *Pittsfield Moves!* (Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival - director)  
2015 *Bricks and Bones* (South Dallas Cultural Center - co-director)  
2012 *From the Field to the Table* (UC Berkeley - director)

### ***Theater, Film & Interdisciplinary Collaborations***

2025 *Blood Dazzler* (revisited with Patricia Smith at Princeton University)  
2023 *The Refuge Plays* (World Premiere - Roundabout Theatre - movement)  
2023 *Bulrusher* (McCarter Theatre, Berkeley Rep - choreographer)  
2022 *A'we deh ya / Salt, Cane, Womb* (short film - creator and director)  
2021 *Shakespeare: Call & Response* (World Premiere, The Public - choreographer)  
2017 *Jazz* (World Premiere, Center Stage - choreographer)  
2016 *Hamlet* (The Public Theater, Mobile Unit - choreographer)  
2015 *Marley* (World Premiere, Center Stage - associate director)  
2014 *brownsville song (b-side for tray)* (World Premiere, LCT3 - choreographer)  
2014 *Die In* (commissioned by Vijay Iyer to open concert run at BAM - director)  
2012 *Spunk* (California Shakespeare Theater - choreographer)  
2011 *Indomitable: James Brown* (World Premiere, SummerStage - choreographer)  
2010 *Blood Dazzler* (World Premiere, Harlem Stage - co-creator)  
2009 *Four Electric Ghosts* (World Premiere, The Kitchen - choreographer)

### ***Companies (select performance work)***

2023-24 Leslie Parker Dance  
2022 Liz Lerman/Wicked Bodies premiere and tour  
2019 Sage Ni'Ja Whitson/NWA Project  
2016-18 skeleton architecture (founding member)

2013-14 Jill Sigman/thinkdance  
2010-12 Liz Lerman/Dance Exchange  
2005-10 Urban Bush Women

## **Accomplishments**

### ***Grants/Fellowships/Awards***

2025 Herb Alpert Award in the Arts  
2024 Jerome Foundation Arts Organization Grant  
2024 Van Lier Grant, New York Community Trust (NYCT)  
2022-24 Creatives Rebuild New York / Artist Employment Program, The Andrew Mellon, Ford and Stavros Niarchos Foundations  
2022 Best Screendance Film Award - 2022 Denton Black Film Festival  
2022 National Dance Project Grant, New England Foundation for the Arts  
2021 Empowering NYC's Black Communities Grant, NYCT  
2021 Black Art Futures Fund Shay Wafer Legacy Grant, Red Olive Culture Commons  
2021 Mosaic Grant Enhancement Support, NYCT  
2021 Doris Duke Foundation Performing Artists Recovery Fund Grant, NYCT  
2020-22 Mosaic Network and Fund Grant, NYCT  
2020 -21 Soros Arts Fellowship, Open Society Foundation  
2020 Howard Gilman Foundation Grant  
2020 MAP Fund Grant  
2020 Dance/NYC Coronavirus Dance Relief Fund Grant  
2019-20 Dance/USA Fellowship to Artists, Doris Duke Foundation  
2018-19 Urban Bush Women Choreographic Center Institute Fellowship  
2018 Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grant  
2017-18 Dance Advancement Fund Grant, Dance/NYC  
2017-18 Artists Engaging in Social Change Grant - renewal  
2017 New York Dance and Performance "Bessie" Award for Performance  
2016 MAP Fund Grant  
2015 Artists Engaging in Social Change Grant, Surdna Foundation  
2015 Dance/USA Engaging Dance Audiences Grant, Doris Duke Foundation

### ***Choreographic Residencies***

2024-25 Virginia Commonwealth University Visiting Artist in Residence  
2024-25 Harvard University Law Library Residency  
2023 Simons Foundation & Gibney Open Interval Resident Artist  
2021 Gibney Dance In Process Resident Artist  
2020-21 Movement Lab @ Barnard College Artist in Residence  
2018-21 Movement Research Artist in Residence  
2017-19 Virginia Commonwealth University Visiting Artist in Residence  
2016-18 New York Live Arts Live Feed Residency  
2014-16 BAX|Brooklyn Arts Exchange Artist in Residence  
2013-14 NYU - Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics Artist in Residence  
2014 Green Choreographers Initiative Residency  
2014 Lower Manhattan Cultural Council Process Space Residency

2013 Wave Hill Winter Workspace Residency  
 2012 iLAND Artist in Residence  
 2011 E|Merge at Earthdance Residency  
 2010 Q[u]AD at The Artist's Mill Residency  
 2009 Voice & Vision ENVISION at Bard College Residency

### **Speaking/Teaching Engagements (select)**

2025 Lecturer, *Blood Dazzler / Collaboration and Catastrophe*, Princeton University  
 2018-25 Lecturer, Critical Response Process, Yale's David Geffen School of Drama  
 2024 Panelist, *Building a Net that Works: Producing Your Own Legacy*, Urban Bush Women  
 When Black Women+ Speak series, Louis Armstrong Center  
 2024 Facilitator, Communion 2024: The Harvest at BAAD!  
 2024 Facilitator, Southern Connecticut State University annual DEI Conference  
 2020-24 Lead Facilitator, Faculty Women of Color in the Academy conference  
 2022 Panelist, *Where Do We Go From Here? Dance and Climate Change*, Dance/NYC  
 Symposium  
 2021 Guest Lecturer, technique course using Fishtrap Method, VCU Dance  
 2021 Guest Lecturer, repertory/technique courses using Fishtrap Method, UCLA  
 2021 Featured Guest, *Black Dance Stories*  
 2020-21 Co-Designer/Facilitator, artist-as-organizer workshop series, VCU Dance  
 2020-21 Visiting Associate Professor, *Approaches to Community-Based Performance*, Pratt Institute  
 2020 Keynote Speaker, *Moving From Surviving to Thriving: The Dance Field in Transformation*,  
 Dance/NYC Symposium  
 2020 Facilitator Fishtrap Method, *MOPDC Winter Intensive*, Barnard College  
 2008-20 Co-designer and Facilitator, *UBW Entering, Building & Exiting Community* workshop  
 (Laundromat Project, The New School, Gilman Foundation)  
 2019 Panelist, *Butterfly Burning: Performativity and Aesthetics*, 1-54 FORUM of 1-54  
 Contemporary African Art Fair  
 2019 Moderator, *Dancing While Black* Journal Launch, NYU Hemispheric Institute  
 2018 Guest Instructor, Performance Studies Program, Pratt Institute  
 2018 Panelist, *Performing the Collective Symposium*, Crossing the Line Festival  
 2018 Featured Guest, *Fridays at Noon*, 92nd Y  
 2018 Panelist, *Artist-Parent Community Meet-up*, Movement Research  
 2018 Moderator, *Moving Body - Moving Image Festival*, Columbia University  
 2017-19 Co-Designer/Facilitator (with John Borstell), *Critical Response*, NYC DOE  
 2017 Panelist, *Changing the Flow: Creativity, Innovation, and Disruption at Work*, Association of  
 Performing Arts Presenters (APAP) Annual Conference  
 2017 Guest, art Work Podcast, Episode 4: *Connecting With Liberation*  
 2017 Moderator, *Dance Makers on Race and Equity*, Dance/NYC Symposium  
 2017 Panelist, *How To Be Artist Run*, BRIC Stoop Series  
 2016-17 Visiting Assistant Professor, Theatre and Dance, Middlebury College  
 2016 Guest Speaker, *Migrating Histories*, Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts  
 2015 -16 Guest Speaker, *Configurations in Motion: Performing Curation and Communities of Color*  
 annual convening, Duke University  
 2013 State Department-sponsored teaching residency in Turkey

## **Service to the Field** (select)

- 2024 National Arts Policy Alliance Co-Design Team, United States Artists
- 2024 American Alliance for Theatre & Education 2025 Symposium Advisory Board 2023  
Dance/NYC Strategic Leadership Committee
- 2022 Bronx Council on the Arts Bronx Dance Fund Panel
- 2022 Dance/USA Fellowships to Artists Panel

## **References**

For two decades, I have been fortunate to be in creative conversation with these two trailblazing artists, both McArthur Fellowship recipients. I interviewed Jawole Zollar when I was a 20-year-old journalist; a decade later I was auditioning for her. In my time with the company I did a State Department tour to South America, and created original roles in a Bessie-Award winning work and a yearslong collaboration with a Senegalese company that toured Europe, the US and Africa. I met Liz Lerman in 2004, by 2010 was dancing in her final project at Dance Exchange, and for the past seven years have been co-designing and co-facilitating Critical Response Process training with her at Yale School of Drama. Working with Jawole and Liz has deepened my skills as a performer, dance-maker, teacher, thinker and leader. In their companies, I devised original roles in landmark dance works, as well as designed everything from single workshops to weeks-long community engagements. Over the years, I've begun to collaborate in co-designing and co-leading significant projects with each of them, creating a rich, reciprocal thought-partnership that becomes possible with a good mentor.

Jawole Zollar, Founding Artistic Director/Chief Visioning Partner, Urban Bush Women  
[Founder – Urban Bush Women](#)

Liz Lerman, Institute Professor, Arizona State University  
[Liz Lerman Website](#)