

Title: Dance History Writing Circles

Organizers: Karen Eliot and Lynn Brooks, on behalf of the DSA Working Group, Dancing the Long Nineteenth Century

Deadline: Mar. 20, 2023

Overview: While scholars have long experienced the solitude of researching and writing alone, the past several years have exacerbated that isolation for many of us. The intention of the Dance History Writing Circles has been to diminish that sense of isolation and motivate those involved through stimulating exchanges with other active scholars. Toward these ends, the Long Nineteenth-Century Working Group of the Dance Studies Association organized formation of small writing circles (4-8 people in each) that have met over the past year or so. Many participants greatly benefited from this program, and we are opening up the call so that other scholars can join the endeavor.

Proposal: Akin to “accountability groups,” each circle of dance-history scholars decides its meeting themes, frequency and times of meetings, and procedures. We suggest meetings of every two, three, or four weeks (as the groups decide) for an initial 4 sessions, to share participants' themes, progress, and goals in current dance-history writing projects (academic articles, books, dissertations, etc.). Continuation of the groups beyond that point is encouraged, should members wish it.

While this idea arose from the Long Nineteenth-Century group, we welcome participation of scholars researching other time periods. The intention is not necessarily to share or require reading of one another's work (although individuals in the group might seek and agree to such exchanges), but rather to motivate and brainstorm with one another, during the meetings, about current research/writing projects with a dance-history focus. We anticipate that the common language of the groups will be English, but if some circles share other common languages, they are free to make a different choice.

To participate: We ask for some details about your projects in order to assist us in arranging the groups according to broadly aligned research areas. If interested in participating in the 2023 Writing Circles, please send to Karen Eliot <keliot614@gmail.com> or to Lynn Brooks <lbrooks@fandm.edu> a brief statement in English including the following information:

- your name,
- a 200-word (or so) description of your project (title plus brief abstract and the nature of the anticipated product -- article, book, dissertation...),
- your current status (i.e., Ph.D. student, assistant professor, independent scholar, retired academic...),
- your location (i.e., San Francisco, CA; Vienna, Austria; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Melbourne, Australia...),
- any other important information or concern for organizers to bear in mind regarding your participation.

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