

# PEGGY MYO-YOUNG CHOY

Artistic Director/Choreographer/Dancer

I bring to performance what

I've always known to be true.

Dance and nature co-exist.

In one moment

dance can reflect the reality we live in

and share future potential.

**Peggy Myo-Young Choy's dance alchemy of focused mind and moving body is fueled by Asian dance, martial arts, as well as urban vernacular dance forms.** Choy's seminal solos include, *Comfort Woman* and *Wild Rice*. She has also created solos around the themes—*Sea Series* and *Blood Series*. Her women-centered stories created since the mid-1990s, integrate her foundations in Korean dance, Javanese dance, and martial arts.

Her full-evening dance-theater works—*Seung Hwa/Compassion: Rape/Race/Rage/Revolution*, *Ki-Aché: Stories from the Belly*, and *Passage of Oracles*—were collaborations with the premier Asian American jazz composer/saxophonist, the late Fred Ho.

**Peggy Choy Dance**, Choy's New York-based dance company, has energized the New York and D.C. dance scene since 2010. The Smithsonian Institution presented *Power Moves: From Bruce Lee's Intercepting Fist to Hip-Hop and Beyond*—a homage to Bruce Lee and The RZA; Dancing Divas/La MaMa Moves! Dance Festival presented *POW!*—about Muhammad Ali and his daughter Laila Ali. The company showcased *THE GREATEST! Hip Dance Homage to Muhammad Ali* at New York's Dance New Amsterdam (2011), with the site-specific premiere at Gleason's Gym in April 2013, showcasing 17 world-class b-boys and pro boxers.

Peggy Choy Dance premiered *THIRST* (2014) and *FLIGHT: torn like a rose* (2017). Choy's works have toured from New York to Jakarta, at venues including New York's Dance Theater Workshop, Danspace Project at St. Mark's Church, La MaMa Experimental Theatre, Aaron Davis Hall, Dance New Amsterdam, CoolNY Dance Festival, American Dance Guild Festival; D.C.'s Kennedy Center and the Millenium Stage, Seoul Art Center in Korea, Havana's Festival Internacional de Danza, Jakarta's Utan Kayu, Berlin and Prague.

Choy's awards include Danspace Project's Commissioning Initiative, NEA/Atlantic Center for the Arts Fellowship, and commissions from Princeton University, Cornell University, Bella Gaia/NY, Afro Yaqui Music Collective/New Hazlett Theater/Pittsburgh, Seoul Selection/LA, Kintari Foundation/Prague, and Café Intarsia/Chicago.

Choy is Associate Professor of Dance and Asian American Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she teaches her Ki Flow™ technique. She is the founder and CEO of The Ki Project, Inc.—a non-profit organization committed to creative thinking and intercultural performance for future generations.

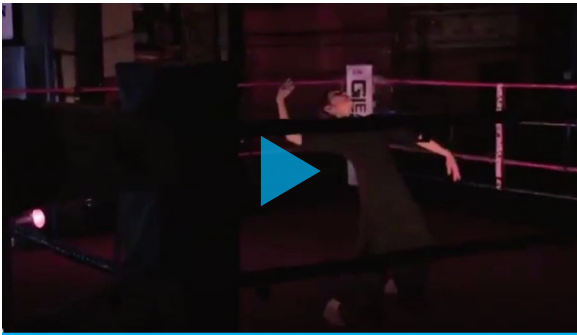


Peggy Choy, *Blood Series*. Photo: JP Yim

Choy's works "juxtapose the contemporary and the timeless."  
—The Washington Post

### Interview with Wisconsin PBS

<https://video.wpt.org/video/wisconsin-life-greatest-dance-tribute-muhammed-ali/>



### Review by See Chicago Dance

<https://seechicagodance.com/headline/meditative-%e2%80%9criver-mouth-ocean%e2%80%9d>

## Peggy Choy Dance: Revisioning Performance

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Peggy Choy. Photo: JP Yim

## FLIGHT: torn like a rose

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A fresh 21st century take on the 12th century Sufi poem, *Conference of the Birds*, by the great Persian poet, Farid ud-Din Attar. Dancers transform into birds—risking all to find the sublime Rose of Love—performing in a dynamic Afro-Asian style fusing African American urban vernacular dance, martial arts and Asian dance forms. After the success of the premiere in 2017, *FLIGHT* returns to Kumble Theater for the Performing Arts, Brooklyn, NY, October 20-22, 2019, and tours to Madison, Wisconsin, H'Doubler Performance Space, October 31, November 1-2, 2019.

Director: **Sonoko Kawahara**

Music: **Graham Haynes with Haleh Abghari**

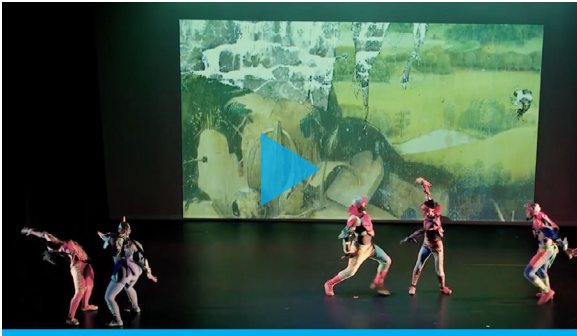
Libretto: **Ruth Margraff**

Video Art: **Patrick Lovejoy, Andrew Jordan, Grant Worth**

Make-Up/Hair: **Emanuel Garcia Rosario**

## **FLIGHT Minireel**

<https://www.peggychoydance.com/performance>



Peggy Choy, *FLIGHT: torn like a rose*.  
Photo: Andy Toad



Ze Motion, Briana Butler, Ai Ikeda, *FLIGHT: torn like a rose*.  
Photo: Fero Sandaval

## **THIRST**

*THIRST* unearths the little-known history of a group of African Americans from Baltimore who work under inhumane conditions as guano miners on the arid Caribbean Island of Navassa. In self-defense, they lead an uprising in 1889, and are later tried and sentenced to life-imprisonment. Through their dreams, the workers connect with healing sea goddesses.

Music: **Michele Rosewoman**

Libretto: **Ann Greene & Peggy Choy**

## **THIRST Minireel**

<https://www.peggychoydance.com/performance>





Orlando Hunter, *THIRST*.  
Photo: JP Yim



Ze Motion, Edgar Eguia, Orlando Hunter,  
*THIRST*. Photo: JP Yim



Ai Ikeda, Ze Motion, *THIRST*. Photo: JP Yim

## CONTACT:

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**Peggy Choy Dance/The Ki Project, Inc.**

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