

# CSU Summer Arts

Earn 3 to 6 units of transferable undergraduate or graduate credit! California residents can take 2 courses (up to 6 units) for the same tuition dollars. Master classes plus a festival in the Visual, Literary, and Performing Arts. Hosted by CSU Monterey Bay.



## Solo Performance: Writing, Performing and Touring a Solo Show

July 16 to July 29, 2012

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will focus on text- and movement-based performance art and the specifics of touring and marketing a show. Text- and movement-based solo performance relies heavily on message and presence and as such, is one of the art forms that prompts diversity in theatre. Solo artists are often exploring personal themes related to gender, race, class, and cultural and national identity. The work is often filtered through the "I" and as such, we will be able to work with first person storytelling (both written and devised) for the scripts and productions that students will develop during the course.

- » Receive small group and individual mentoring with successful touring artists.
- » Experience writing and devising solo performance pieces.
- » Actors, dancers, performance poets, storytellers, circus artists – all forms of solo performance are welcome. You will focus on working in the medium you choose.
- » Work with guest artists with a range of experience from character-driven theatre and performance poetry, to mime and storytelling.
- » Learn real world practical information on marketing and touring a solo performance and making a living as a performance artist.
- » This workshop will culminate in a public performance of student work.

### GUEST ARTISTS

#### Sharon Bridgforth

[WWW.SHARONBRIDGFORTH.COM](http://WWW.SHARONBRIDGFORTH.COM)

Sharon Bridgforth is a poet and playwright who works in the theatrical jazz aesthetic. Ms. Bridgforth is the Lambda Award-winning author of two performance/poetry/novels published by RedBone Press. She is co-editor of *Experiments in a Jazz Aesthetic: Art, Activism, Academia, and the Austin Project*, published in 2010. She has been a touring artist since 1993, doing both solo and ensemble work. Jewelle Gomez said of her first book, "the bull-jean stories are a tantalizing blend of poetry and performance art that sings and dances across the page. The oral tradition that has kept Black culture alive informs the phrasing, melody and rhythms of each of these pieces and invites the reader to listen as well as read. Surrender to the jazzy/bluesy riffs here and you'll come away singing..."

#### Bill Bowers

[WWW.BILL-BOWERS.COM](http://WWW.BILL-BOWERS.COM)

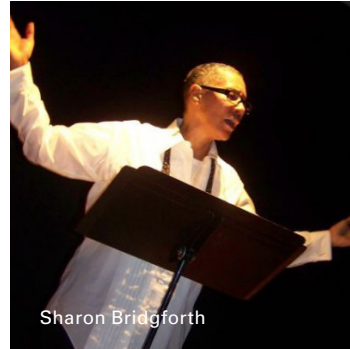
As an actor and a mime, Bill Bowers has performed throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. His solo shows include, *It Goes Without Saying*, *Night Sweetheart*, *Night Buttercup*, and *Under a Montana Moon*. *The New York Times* writes: "To watch Bill Bowers' collection of silent stories, *Under a Montana Moon*, was to see the technical elements of a European style that probably still brings Marcel Marceau to mind, joined to the American West. Mime can be wonderful - the air between him and us was his palette." *The New York Times* called *It Goes Without Saying* "Zestful and endearing. Full of life!" Mr. Bowers studied mime with the legendary Marcel Marceau.

### COURSE COORDINATOR

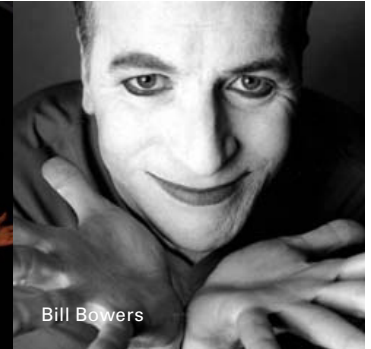
#### Kimberly Dark

[WWW.KIMBERLYDARK.COM](http://WWW.KIMBERLYDARK.COM)

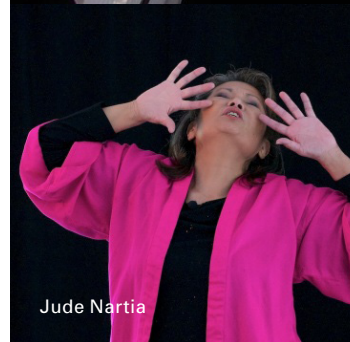
Kimberly Dark is the author of five award-winning solo performance scripts and her poetry and prose appear in a number of publications. *Campus Pride* named her as one of the 25 "Best of the Best" speakers and performers on college campuses. The *Salt Lake Tribune* in Utah says "Dark doesn't shy away from provocative, incendiary statements, but don't expect a rant. Her shows, leavened with humor, are more likely to explore how small everyday moments can inform the arc of our lives."



Sharon Bridgforth



Bill Bowers



Jude Narita



Heather Raffo  
Photo by Irene Young

#### Jude Narita

[WWW.JUDENARITA.COM](http://WWW.JUDENARITA.COM)

Jude Narita has performed her one-woman plays nationally and internationally since writing her first play, the award-winning *Coming into Passion/Song for Sansei*, which was her artist response to the demeaning and one-dimensional stereotypes of Asian women in films, theatre, and on television. Ms. Narita explores then transcends Asian issues—celebrating our differences, while illuminating the universal humanity of us all. "In an astonishing solo performance, Jude Narita, a versatile actress and fearless writer, sheds an authentic, humorous and deeply moving light on the dilemma of the Asian American woman." *Critic's Choice/L.A. Reader*

#### Heather Raffo

[WWW.HEATHERRAFFO.COM](http://WWW.HEATHERRAFFO.COM)

Heather Raffo's award-winning show, *9 Parts of Desire*, is a portrait of the extraordinary (and ordinary) lives of a whole cross section of Iraqi women: a sexy painter, a radical Communist, doctors, exiles, wives, and lovers. This work delves into the many conflicting aspects of what it means to be a woman in the age-old war zone that is Iraq. It is an unusually timely meditation on the ancient, the modern and the feminine in a country overshadowed by war. *The New Yorker* says *9 Parts of Desire* is "an example of how art can remake the world! A triumph! Thrilling!" *The New York Times* calls it "Powerful! Impassioned! Vivid! Memorable!"

#### COURSE COORDINATOR

Professor Kimberly Dark  
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619-708-8115

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE

May 18, 2012

Over 70% of our students receive scholarships

[CSUSUMMERARTS.ORG](http://CSUSUMMERARTS.ORG)