

Dr. Sangeeta Laura Biagi

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www.laurabiagi.org

Born in Siena, Italy, in 1973.

Languages: Italian, English, French.

Areas of Competence: Ashtanga Yoga, Sound Healing, Spiritual Counselling.

Education and Training in the Arts and Yoga

- *One Year Special Diploma in Yoga Education and Therapy*, following the *Six Months Residential Yoga Teachers' Training*, International Center for Yoga Education and Research, Ananda Ashram, Pondicherry, Tamil Nadu, India. Training in Gitananda Ashtanga Yoga, including Hatha Yoga, Pranayama, Mantra Chanting, Sanskrit, Bharat Natyam and Carnatic Vocal Music; 2009-2010 (www.icyer.com)
- *Sound Healing and Facilitator Certificate Program*, The New York Open Center Sound and Music Institute, New York City, USA. Studies of Indigenous Sound Healing Systems, Music Therapy, Biosonics, The Yoga of Sound, and Harmonic Healthcare; 2008-2009.
- *Professional Tour Guide Training for the City of Florence, Italy*, APAB, Florence; 2007-2208.
- *Apprenticeship and Ordination as an Interfaith Minister of the Ministry of Maat*, Ministry of Maat, Kingston, New York, USA; 2001-2004.

Academic Education

- *Ph.D. (Doctorate)*, Department of Performance Studies, Tisch School of the Arts – GSAS, New York University. Dissertation: *Spider Dreams: Ritual and Performance in Apulian Tarantismo* (Advisor: Professor Richard Schechner); 2004.
- *Master of Arts*, Department of Performance Studies, Tisch School of the Arts – GSAS, New York University. Thesis: *The Voice of the Text and the Text of the Voice* (Advisor: Professor Fred Moten); 1998.
- *Laurea (Summa Cum Laude)*, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, University of Siena, Italy. Thesis: *The Universal Language of Meredith Monk's Performance Art* (Advisor: Professor Roberto Birindelli); 1997.

Awards

- *Carolyn Grant '36 Endowment Fund Grant For the Integration of Expressive Arts and Experiential Processes Into Teaching*, Vassar College, New York, USA; 2008-2009.
- *Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Conversations Award*, Vassar College, New York, USA; 2008.

Employment

- *Program Director*, Vassar College Summer Program in Siena, Italy; 2009.
- *Visiting Assistant Professor*, Italian Department, Vassar College, New York; 2008-2009.
- *Certified Tour Guide for the City of Florence*, Florence, Italy; 2008-2009.
- *Assistant Professor*, Music Department, New York University in Florence, Italy; 2007-2008.
- *Program Manager Assistant*, RES International Artist Residency, Masseria Torcito, Lecce, Italy; 2005.
- *Art Gallery Assistant*, The Gallery at Deep Listening Space, New York; 2002-2003.
- *Italian Language Fellow*, Italian Department, Vassar College, New York; 1997-1998.

Conference Papers and Presentations

- *"The Physical, Emotional and Mental Benefits of Chanting the Pranava AUM"*, paper presented at the 17th International Yoga Festival, Pondicherry, India; 2010.
- *"Spider Dreams: The Healing Ritual of Apulian Tarantella Music and Dance"*, paper presented at *Across the Threshold: Creativity, Being and Healing* conference, Duke University, North Carolina, USA; 2009.
- *"The Magical Role of the Mask in the Tradition of Venetian Carnival"*, lecture hosted by the Dutchess County Arts Council Folk Arts Program and "Noi Italiani d'Oggi", The Italian Center, Poughkeepsie, New York; 2009.
- *"Salentine Folk Music"*, paper presented at the *Global Weekends: Mediterranean Festival*, American Museum of Natural History, New York City; 2002.

- “*Italian Folk Songs*”, paper and presentation at the *New York World Festival* hosted by the Center for Traditional Music and Dance, New York; 2002.

Translations

- *Agathe*, a poem by Paul Valéry, from French into English, in *l’Incanto*, a book by Marialba Russo, Milano: Skira Editore; 2004.
- *Book of Days*, film script, from English into French, The House Foundation for the Arts; 1999.

Artistic Performances

- *Carnatic Vocal Music Presentation*, Tyagaraja Festival, Pondicherry, 2010.
- *The Dance of the Sun*, performance piece based on a study of esoteric symbols and astrology hosted by *PaRDeS* Center of Contemporary Art during the exhibit *Australia*, Mirano, Italy; 2008.
- *Voices from Home*, concert of Italian folk songs hosted by the Italian Departments of Vassar College, New York; 2009; New York University at Villa La Pietra, Florence; 2008; and The Cantabile Choirs of Kingston, Ontario, Canada; 2007.
- *Da Mille Serenate*, concert of Italian folk songs, *Casa Italiana Zerilli-Merimò*, New York University and *Gallery at Deep Listening Space*, New York; 2006.

Interviews

- *Un’italiana a New York* (An Italian In New York), interview by Angelica Alemanno, www.caffeeuropa.it; 2000.

Reviews

- “La Bandiera della Selva in un college americano” (The Selva Flag In An American College) by Laura Valdesi, *La Nazione, Cronaca di Siena*, Nov. 16th, 2008, p.II.
- “Aria di Biagi conquista l’America” (The Air of Biagi Conquers America), by Katuscia Vaselli, *La Nazione, Cronaca di Siena*, April 27th, 2006, p. VII.

Music

- *ARIA*, CD, Carrozze Records, 2006.