

Boris Willis

Choreographer · Game Designer · Motion Capture Artist — Associate Professor of Computer Game Design, George Mason University

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Dancer, choreographer, game designer, and animator working where choreography meets technology — across stage, screen, motion capture, real-time rendering, and computer games. Founder of Boris Willis Moves and Black Russian Games.

EDUCATION

- 2007 **MFA, Dance & Technology** — The Ohio State University
BFA, Dance — George Mason University
Diploma, Contemporary Dance — University of North Carolina School of the Arts

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

Associate Professor of Computer Game Design — George Mason University, College of Visual and Performing Arts

SELECTED WORKS

- 2023 **The Pearl Diver's Daughter** — Visual Design
2022 **The Alloy Project**
2021 **ReVision 10** — Designer, ReVision Dance Company, Dance Place
2021 **Hey Mu! (Mother's Myths and Monsters)**
2021 **Encounters** — Conjuring Presence, Fenwick Gallery, George Mason University
2020 **The Owl, The Fish, The Maiden and He** — interactive poem, Black Russian Games
2019 **Night Vision**
2017 **Timber. Iron. Sinew.**
2017 **coldness and lightness** — performer; chor. Ashley Thorndike-Youssef
2016 **Natasha: A Game of Dance**
2013 **Moments / Mumford**
2011 **Kinect Telephony**
2008 **Follow** — with Cynthia McLaughlin, Mount Holyoke College
2003 **Enter Race** — Kennedy Center Local Dance Commission

Ongoing: *Dance A Day* (700+ daily dance videos) · *Abandoned Revolution*.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- 2018 **Artist-in-Residence** — Robert Wilson's Watermill Center
2004 **Fellowship in Choreography** — Virginia Commission for the Arts
2003 **Local Dance Commission** — The John F. Kennedy Center
2003 **Nominated, Emerging Choreographer** — Metro DC Dance Award

PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 **Serious Play Conference**
Fairfax, VA
2017 **IndieCade**
Los Angeles, CA
2017 **East Coast Games Conference**
Raleigh, NC
2016 **DiGRA/FDG**
Dundee, Scotland
2016 **Nat'l Dance Education Org.**
Washington, DC

WRITING

- Personal narrative in *Black Game Studies* (ed. Lindsay Grace, 2021)
- *The Power of Play in Higher Education* (co-author, 2019)

PERFORMANCE AFFILIATIONS

- Jacob's Pillow's Men Dancers
- STREB
- Liz Lerman's Dance Exchange
- BodyCartography Project
- Edgeworks Dance Theater
- Company E