

**Kimi Eisele** is a dancer/choreographer, director, writer, and visual artist Tucson, Arizona. Her work is grounded in explorations of place and environment, creating opportunities for community collaboration, civic participation, and deeper discovery of our connection to nature. Kimi makes photographs, papercuttings, and shadow puppet theater about wildlife, and the human body. She has directed multiple dance projects for New ARTiculations Dance Theatre, exploring issues such as endangered species (*Rosemont Ours*, 2013), water (*FLOW*, 2012), urban revitalization (*The Invisible City*, 2008), and food systems (*We Are What We Eat*, 2008). Recent projects include; *Suspended*, a interactive installation/performance exploring human-animal behavior, light, shadow, and forests, presented at the Tucson Museum of Art; and *Standing with Saguaros*, a year-long project bringing participatory activities, innovative storytelling, and performance to Saguaro National Park in celebration of the National Park Service Centennial. The project was presented by Borderlands Theater with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. Kimi is also a co-founder and member of Movement Salon, an improvisational performance group that incorporates dance, spoken word, and live music to create ephemeral compositions.

Kimi's essays and articles about globalization, US-Mexico border issues, the environment, health and the arts have been published in literary magazines, anthologies, and online news outlets. She recently completed a novel about America in the post-apocalypse, a project for which she was awarded both the 2012 Arizona Commission on the Arts annual Artist Project Grant and a 2012 New Works grant from Tucson Pima Arts Council.

Kimi holds an MA in geography from the University of Arizona where in 1998 she founded *you are here: the journal of creative geography* (still in publication!). In 2008, she collaborated with visual artists and architects to produce “+/- 92: Master Plans of Downtown Tucson,” an interactive exhibit looking at Tucson's historical and present-day obsession with planning itself.

Kimi has taught creative writing and dance in schools, communities, and institutions for over a decade. She is a co-founder of VOICES, Inc., an arts organization that trained young people in the documentary arts, and was awarded the 2005 Compass Health Care Dynamic Duo Award for her service as Writing Director there.

Kimi is the 2014 recipient of the “Lumie” Award for Established Artist from the Tucson Pima Arts Council and has been a resident artist at Djerassi, Blue Mountain Center, the Mesa Refuge, and the Rasmuson Resident Artist Program with the Island Institute in Sitka, AK.