



DR. C. S'THEMBILE WEST

Born and raised in Harlem, New York City, C. S'thembile West has been writing about dance in diverse magazines and newspapers, since the late seventies. Over the course of her career, she performed with the Chuck Davis Dance Company, Dianne McIntyre's Sounds in Motion Dance Company, Lynn Simonson's Uncompany and the Crowsfeet Dance Collective. Now retired from dancing, Dr. West focuses on poetry, arts criticism and teaching. She is a

full professor at Western Illinois University and teaches courses cross-listed with African American Studies, English, Religion and Women's Studies: Black Women in Dance Performance, Women in Spirituality, Women in Literature, Literature of the Black World and Religion in African American Culture.

In 1994, Dr. West earned a Ph.D. in African American Studies with an emphasis on aesthetics and literature at Temple University and has served on the Humanities Resource Team of the American Dance Festival (ADF). She feels honored and grateful to have worked on educational and performance projects with the Philadelphia Dance Company, the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company and the Dallas Black Dance Theater among others.