

## Get to Know RCL

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### **Describe your educational background.**

I have a BA in Dance History and Criticism/Performance and Choreography, an MA in Choreography, Aesthetics, and Archives (Dance Studies), and a PhD in Dance Studies and Artificial Intelligence.

### **What was your path to librarianship like?**

While teaching in the dance department at Brenau University in Georgia, I worked with the librarian to develop 'treasure hunts' in the library for my students. Dance students are generally thought of as living in studios and on stages, but they need to learn of theory and history, too. Also, while working on my doctoral research I was in constant contact with librarians and I spent time working with metadata issues, etc. The Brenau librarian told me I was a closet librarian, and told me of the CLIR Post-doctoral Fellowship. I applied, and ended up spending a year at the University of Virginia and another at the University of North Carolina - Greensboro. Between the two I learned about reference librarianship, building online collections, collections management, admin and budgetary considerations, facilities management, etc.

### **Tell us about a recent professional achievement of which you are particularly proud.**

Processing a collection in the SCPA archives; building a gallery exhibit on those materials in the SCPA archives, and planning a symposium highlighting the Irmgard Bartenieff Papers. I also continue to present dance as a valid part of the digital humanities at conferences (most recently demonstrating work within the archives!)

### **Describe RCL in three words.**

Metadata, Guru, Necessary

### **What are some of the most useful resources for selecting core books in your discipline?**

Colleagues in the dance discipline (I often reach out and they are more than willing to offer suggestions).

### **What is the biggest challenge for you in maintaining the RCL subject collection?**

Culling (weeding). I think all texts re: dance are important!

## If you could select the campus-wide read using a book from your RCL subject, which book would it be? Why?

Oh, there are too many to pick just one. I'd probably select a video, and there are too many good ones there, too, like DV8's *The Cost of Living...* or the Nederland Dans *Theater's Black and White Ballets...or No Maps on My Taps...or Pina...or Ballet Russe...or...*

## What is your best advice for new subject selectors?

Know your discipline, work with faculty, and be thoughtful of what might be in other disciplines.

## Stereotypes about librarians abound. What is the most unlibrarianlike thing about you?

I dance. Everywhere.

## Complete this sentence: "When I'm not in the library, you can find me \_\_\_\_\_."


Somewhere quiet. (Who knew librarians can be loud?!?)

## You've been shipwrecked. What one book do you want with you to read while you await rescue?

*Einstein's Dreams* by Alan Lightman.

## Is there anything else you'd like to tell us?

I'm not a librarian. I'm not an archivist. I'm a hybrid: digital humanist/teacher/researcher/libarch. I also have 5 grandchildren and my research partner and co-author is my daughter (who used to be a professional dancer).



**The Mystery of Samba**  
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978-0-8078-2373-6  
University of North Carolina  
Press  
Feb 1999

**Overview**

**Table of contents**

**Annotations**

**My RCL**

**Professional Reviews**

**Author Biography**

**Publisher Info**

**Stock Availability**

**E-Books**

Title: The Mystery of Samba : Popular Music and National Identity in Brazil  
Author: Vianna, Hermann  
Editor: Chasteen, John Charles  
Publication Year: UNITED STATES: 16 Feb 1999  
Copyright Date: 1999-01-01  
Street Date: UNITED STATES: 20 Jan 1999  
Ship Date: UNITED STATES: 20 Jan 1999  
Publisher: UNITED STATES  
University of North Carolina Press [View Publisher Info](#)

Publisher Country: UNITED STATES  
Market: UNITED STATES  
ISBN-10: 0-8078-4766-6  
ISBN-13: 978-0-8078-4766-4  
EAN: 9780807847664  
Item status: UNITED STATES: Active Record  
Returnable: UNITED STATES: Yes  
Format: Paperback - Trade paperback (US)  
Pages: 168  
Illustrated: Yes - bibliog., notes, index  
RCL Format: Book  
RCL Add Date: 05-18-2006  
RCL Audience Level: Upper