

## MARIA LORETA CELITAN

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Maria Loreta Celitan, founder of Sol Y Sombra dance company, holds degrees in Art and Art History, an M.A. in Comparative Religions and an advanced Certificate in Gerontology. In addition to her extensive study in a variety of dance related fields (Classical Ballet, Modern Dance, Near Eastern and Bharatanatyam), the field of Spanish dance led her to study in Spain with several outstanding professionals such as Paco Romero, Carmen Cortex, La Tati and more. Maria holds certifications in advanced Hatha and Cardiac Yoga, Creative Movement for Children, and Dance Therapy from the Turtle Bay Music School in Manhattan.

Maria's appearances and solo concerts are numerous and span many years. As a company member she danced with the likes of Estrella Morna's Ballet de Madrid and The American Spanish Dance Theatre, appearing at the U.N., Lincoln Center's Out-of-Doors, and Washington D.C.'s Armory Arts Center. Maria has taught Spanish/Latin dance for a variety of schools and institutions throughout the New York metropolitan area.

Until recently Maria was on the faculty of SUNY, Stony Brook University Center for Dance, Movement, and Somatic Learning. She is an arts-in-education exponent working for several well-known arts-in-education programs. Maria dedicates her time to participate on panels and serve as a member of boards for various organizations.