

Fall 2022

## Rosy Simas

Sally Brown

West Virginia University, [sally.brown1@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:sally.brown1@mail.wvu.edu)

Joe Stahlman

University of Buffalo, [joestahl@buffalo.edu](mailto:joestahl@buffalo.edu)

Bonnie M. Brown

West Virginia University, [BonnieM.Brown@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:BonnieM.Brown@mail.wvu.edu)

Beth Toren

West Virginia University, [beth.toren@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:beth.toren@mail.wvu.edu)

Michael Sherwin

West Virginia University, [Michael.Sherwin@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:Michael.Sherwin@mail.wvu.edu)

*See next page for additional authors*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://researchrepository.wvu.edu/indigenous-exhibit>

---

### Recommended Citation

Brown, Sally; Stahlman, Joe; Brown, Bonnie M.; Toren, Beth; Sherwin, Michael; Anderson, Richard; and Zafar, Maryam Marne, "Rosy Simas" (2022). *Indigenous Appalachia*. 39.

<https://researchrepository.wvu.edu/indigenous-exhibit/39>

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the Library Exhibits at The Research Repository @ WVU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Indigenous Appalachia by an authorized administrator of The Research Repository @ WVU. For more information, please contact [beau.smith@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:beau.smith@mail.wvu.edu).

---

**Authors**

Sally Brown, Joe Stahlman, Bonnie M. Brown, Beth Toren, Michael Sherwin, Richard Anderson, and Maryam Marne Zafar

# INDIGENOUS APPALACHIA

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

.....

### Rosy Simas *Seneca Nation, Heron Clan*



Photo: Carina Lofgren

*"The culture, history, and identity stored in my body is the underpinning of all my work. Creating is a spiritual act for me, rooted in nature, formed through my link to my ancestors and the land of which we are made."*

Rosy is a transdisciplinary and dance artist who creates work for stage and installation. Simas's work weaves themes of personal and collective identity with family, sovereignty, equality, and healing, creating dance work with a team of Native artists and artists of color, driven by movement-vocabularies developed through deep listening. Her dance works include

*Weave, Skin(s) and We Wait In The Darkness*, which toured throughout Turtle Island. Her installations have been exhibited at the Seneca Iroquois National Museum, All My Relations Arts, SOO Visual Art Center, and the Weisman Art Museum.



Rosy is a 2013 Native Arts and Cultures Foundation Choreography Fellow, 2015 Guggenheim Creative Arts Fellow, 2016 McKnight Foundation Choreography Fellow, 2019 Dance/USA Fellow, 2022 USA Doris Duke Fellow, a recipient of a 2017 Joyce Award from The Joyce Foundation, a 2021 Native Arts and Cultures Foundation SHIFT award, and earned multiple awards from NEFA National Dance Project, the MAP Fund, and NPN. In 2021 Simas was the inaugural Pamela Beatty Mitchell Artist-in-Residence in contemporary dance at Colorado College, and held artist-in-residencies at Carleton College and the Target Studio for Creative Collaboration at the Weisman Art Museum. She is the Artistic Director of Rosy Simas Danse and *three thirty one space*, a creative studio for Native and BIPOC artists in Minneapolis, MN.



Middle: Steve Carlino  
Bottom: Uche Iroegbu,  
courtesy of Intermedia Arts



LEARN MORE!  
Snap this QR code  
to read about the artist or  
watch a video.

