

## **Rebekah West**

Rebekah has been honored with grants and commissions for her artistic work in dance, film, writing, media and design. She is a skilled and effective community leader and project developer. West keeps the visionary flame burning for MediaTribe USA Australia, will direct the project's documentary and visual media, and will guide leadership development. She holds a Master's Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies: Writing & Poetics and Visual Arts from Naropa University and two Bachelor's Degrees in the dance field.

Her artistic and leadership work is distinguished by tenderness toward fellow artists and young people. She often works to ease the way of artists, emerging and established, because she knows how difficult it can be for artists but how sustaining art is for others. She firmly believes that artists have a place in society and can be revalued to a position of responsibility.

Her films have been selections for world film festivals in Iceland, Germany and Mexico and her photography juried into exhibits in New York, Washington DC, New Mexico and Colorado.

As a dancer and choreographer, West worked with the Colorado Music Festival, American Institute of Architects, Pablo Rodarte, Neil Haverstick, and others, and sell-out crowds have consistently enjoyed her choreography and performance. She created the Youth Arts Institute at the Colorado Dance Festival and was trained as a National Dance Institute instructor.

Recently, West was director of the University of Colorado ATLAS Center for Arts, Media & Performance and was artist in residence there where she designed a range of successful initiatives in education, new media performance, technology, practical artistry and television and where she debuted her flamenco-media company PolkaDot. As artistic producer/director of the Boulder Dance Alliance/Space for Dance for ten years she created community programming, launched choreographic careers, worked closely with the City of Boulder in a private-public partnership, and used arts to reinvigorate blighted urban areas.

[www.rebekahwest.com](http://www.rebekahwest.com)

## **Don Grusin**

After receiving a master's degree in economics from the University of Colorado, he taught as a Fulbright professor in Mexico and subsequently in the U.S., when Quincy Jones encouraged him to join his band for a Japan-U.S. tour in the mid 1970s. Grusin took a leave from teaching economics, Los Angeles became home, and music became the rule.

Grusin was the creative sparkplug for the acclaimed fusion ensemble Friendship and has recorded and produced scores of albums, including the Grammy-winning Musician(sic) for Ernie Watts. Grusin received a Grammy nomination for his live contemporary jazz DVD and CD The Hang, and got another Grammy this past year for his contribution to Paul Winter's CD Crestone.

His current release Piano in Venice <<http://www.dongrusin.com/PIV.html>> was recorded in Venice California on his much-loved grand piano joined with contemporary grooves from every musical genre, guitar licks, voices, dancers, people clapping, singing, birds, animals, traditional percussion instruments from everywhere in the world.

Grusin created the course World Music Videos as a Catalyst for Social Change for the University of Colorado, Boulder where he collaborated with Rebekah West to bring the course to fruition through the ATLAS Institute. This fall he leads a band including his brother Dave and longtime friend and guitarist Lee Ritenour for a promotion tour through Switzerland, Germany, and Luxembourg for the European release of The Hang. And this coming year Grusin is being scheduled to appear at the World's Fair in Shanghai, and will perform in Europe with global music stars living in Paris. Two cd/dvd projects are headed for completion in the UK and Brasil.