



**Ken Otter** was a close friend and collaborator of **Anna and Larry Halprin**; he served as co-director of The Leadership Center—Transformative Learning and Change—at Saint Mary’s College of California, as a faculty member at Saint Mary’s College of California, and as a core faculty member at the Tamalpa Institute;

I had the immense good fortune to participate in the joint teachings of Anna & Lawrence Halprin, Ken Otter & Taira Restar on “dance & collective creation” and the RSVP cycles... We have remained friends ever since, and I am very, very happy to welcome Ken and share his deeply inspiring teachings with you.

**The theme of this workshop** focuses on what has always been close to his heart: “Embodying ecology with nature as choreographer”, linked to Anna Halprin’s “flagship topic” on “the creative process”: the RSVP cycles and the process of partitioning in the service of art and artistic and pedagogical explorations and creations with nature... .nature as choreographer!

This is a rare and exceptional opportunity to receive this teaching from one of the few people who has been at the heart of the research and development of this practice alongside Larry and Anna Halprin

**Don’t miss this unique opportunity!**

*“Today’s experiences of connection and kinship with our living Earth inspire the flourishing world of tomorrow.” Ken Otter*

## Embodying Ecology: Nature as Choreographer

To be alive is to move. In fact, all of nature is an ensemble of rhythmic movements attuned to one another in a field of play and adaptation. Creativity belongs to nature as well. It is the essence of our existence. In this workshop, we turn our everyday human movement into creative improvisations with the living environment and attuned with the rhythms and patterns of nature. In this way, **nature becomes our choreographer**. Through sensing, moving, and making art with the living ensemble we call nature, we re-awaken our kinship with and intrinsic belonging to the living earth.

The **RSVP Cycles** (a play on the phrase - *répondez s'il vous plait*), were co-created by Lawrence and Anna Halprin to make visible the creative process in groups. Each letter represents a phase in this process: R is Resource Gathering, S is Scoring, V is Valuation, P is Performance.

We will use the RSVP Cycles to guide our work in the following ways:

### Day One: Resources Gathering

We engage in individual and group improvisations to awaken and renew the self, connect with each other and with our environment. From these experiences we begin to generate resources for individual and collective art expression.

### Day Two: Scoring

We play with what we have generated on Day One toward scores (designs) to give form to the themes, stories and visions that emerge in us individually and collectively. We then experiment with ways to shape these into creative art expression.

### Day Three: Valuation

We fine-tune our scores to reflect our individual and group inspirations and aspirations for our performance on Day Four. We begin to craft our art expression into a collective performance that weaves together the self, group and the environment.

### Day Four: Performance

We dance our individual and collective stories.

### Day Five: Valuation

We harvest the fruits generated from dance performances and our workshop experience. We also design ways we seek to plant the seeds of aliveness, creativity and wisdom that have emerged from the workshop into our daily lives.

### By the end of this workshop, you will:

- Discover new ways to connect to nature through movement improvisations, and creative art expression.
- Enhance your skills in linking mind, body, and heart, in linking the self with others and the environment.
- Learn how to use the RSVP Cycles to enhance both individual and group creativity.
- Strengthen your capacity for partnerships and collaboration
- Practice making your everyday life an aesthetic and artful one, toward a life that has more vibrancy, wellbeing, and a deeper sense of kinship and belonging in the living world.

## **Course taught in English, translated into French**

**Location:** in a beautiful cottage on the banks of the Ria d'Etel, 30 minutes from Auray, an ecolodge on a small peninsula in the Ria

**Dates:** Monday, May 25 through Friday, May 29, 2026

**To register,** send me an email with the completed registration form and pay the deposit directly on BilletWeb

BilletWeb registration linkB : <https://www.billetweb.fr/la-nature-comme-choregraphe-avec-ken-otter>

**Price:** €450 - installment payments available (Reduced rate: €400)

**Residential workshop with self-catering:** accommodation fee €120

### **About Ken Otter:**

Ken Otter is passionate about life and movement; he designs and facilitates innovative and transformative learning experiences for individuals and groups who wish to use their roles and work as catalysts for meaningful systemic change in their communities. His approach aims to connect traditional and contemporary knowledge, art and science, as well as body, mind, and heart, in order to cultivate integrity, well-being, and wisdom on both the individual and collective levels. The work and legacy of Anna Halprin and Joanna Macy, with whom he studied intensively, are major influences on his work.

Ken lives on the Point Reyes Peninsula in Northern California, where the community and natural environment enchant, inspire, and nourish him daily. Ken has studied somatic psychology, counseling, organizational psychology, expressive arts therapy, adult development and learning, and leadership. He holds a master's degree and a doctorate from the California Institute of Integral Studies, and has also earned certifications in Leadership Development (Harvard Kennedy School of Government), Executive and Organizational Coaching (Columbia Teachers College), Mindfulness Meditation (Greater Good Science Center), Life-Art Process (having served as one of Anna Halprin's right-hand men and been part of the Tamalpa Institute's first training cohort). He is co-founder and chairman of the board of directors, [In Place](#)