



The Thomas Hardy School

Summer Preparation Task

Dance A Level
AQA 7237

Purpose of task:

To prepare students for the written element of the course and encourage engagement in research and observing dance / dance analysis.

Task:

Part 1 Familiarise yourself with the Rambert Dance Company website (see resources). Read about the history of the company. Create a time line on A3 paper for the period **1966 to 2002**. Include the directors, key events (from the left-hand side of the timeline) and some works that were choreographed by Glen Tetley, Christopher Bruce, Richard Alston, and Robert North including the choreographers name and date (from the right-hand side of the timeline).

Part 2 You will study 4 main dance practitioners who were important in the development of Jazz (1940-75). These are Jack Cole, Agnes de Mille, Jerome Robbins and Bob Fosse. Choose **one** practitioner and research into their life and career. Task 1: Create a poster which will consolidate your research of the practitioner including key works they have contributed to or made. Task 2: Choose a work from your chosen practitioner (this will most likely be a musical) and discuss **one** choreographed dance from this work. Write about the movements you see; the music style; what the dance is conveying to the audience; how the dancers relate to each other; the use of the camera e.g. any special effects, close-up shots, long shots. (Approximately 1000 words)

Recommended resources:

Part 1: Rambert Dance Company website

<http://www.rambert.org.uk>

Part 2: American Jazz

Books:

Oliver, W. Guarion, L. (unknown) A History of the Roots and Branches; Jazz Dance. University of Florida.

Long, R, E. (2001) Broadway the golden years. New York.

Youtube clips:

Jack Cole *Kismet* (1955)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=da_cMIB3cD0

Agnes de Mille *Oklahoma!* (1943)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2D1loAVwiMc>

Jerome Robbins *West Side Story* (1951 film)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxoC5Oyf_ss

Bob Fosse *Sweet Charity* (1969)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DSSIWf>

Additional information:

Observation of any clips of work by choreographers Christopher Bruce and Richard Alston will be beneficial. As will reading any articles about them and their work.

Recommended reading & activities list:

Some suggestions are -

Christopher Bruce Ghost Dances <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E0o2PEewTu8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fghI3vscIjU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pswB5ikZPg0>

Sergeant Early's Dream <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HACqsZ6PhFs>

Rooster <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hjq-exC5XZo&list=PLUZmZnRCfZVuDTJElOYOB3XVwZ2LUREW&index=3>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6uSj4OereW8>

Deadline for Task: First lesson in week commencing 13th September 2021

Required Stationery and Equipment for A Level Dance

A4 Ring binder file, and paper (A4 lined)
File dividers

Essential Resources

Appropriate dance kit, leggings and leotard/ t-shirt

Things to Consider Throughout the Year

There will be opportunities to attend dance trips to see professional work, and participate in workshops/ classes with professional artists throughout the year.