

Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School

Year 12 A Level Dance Transition Work

To prepare yourself for the A Level Dance course we suggest that you complete some of the following tasks prior to the start of your course. You are not required to complete all tasks. If you don't understand something, don't worry, we will revise all of this material briefly at the start of the course. If you have not studied GCSE Dance you should refer to the GCSE Dance revision guide to ensure you are secure in key terminology.

Component 1: Solo Practitioner Performance Task

Research a few of the following practitioners and find out the key features of their work:

Prescribed set works:

- Christopher Bruce
- Martha Graham
- Gene Kelly
- Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui

Named practitioners:

- Glen Tetley
- Robert North
- Richard Alston
- Siobhan Davies
- Ashley Page
- Filippo Taglioni
- August Bournonville
- Arthur Saint-Leon
- Agnes de Mille
- Jack Cole
- Jerome Robbins
- Bob Fosse
- Loie Fuller
- Isadora Duncan
- Ruth St. Denis
- Doris Humphrey
- Shobana Jeyasingh
- Matthew Bourne
- Jasmin Vardimon
- Akram Khan
- Hofesh Shechter

Consider whether any of these practitioners would suit your own strengths and weaknesses in terms of performance.

Component 1: Choreography Task

Watch examples of dance works from some of the following companies and choreographers to broaden your knowledge of different styles of dance:

- Matthew Bourne's New Adventures
- Ballet Boyz
- Rambert Dance Company
- Boy Blue Entertainment
- Akram Khan Dance Company
- Shobana Jeyasingh Dance
- Motionhouse Dance Company
- StopGap Dance Company
- DV8 Physical Theatre
- Phoenix Dance Theatre
- James Cousins Company
- The Royal Ballet (Wayne McGregor)
- Jasmin Vardimon
- Hofesh Schechter

Note how they manipulate dancers and movement material and recognise key choreographic devices that the choreographers have used.

Component 2: Critical Engagement tasks

1. Find out what you can about Rambert Dance Company from 1966-2002. Consider:

- Key dates/ changes to the company
- Key choreographers
- What was happening in dance at the time?
- Watch some pieces by some of the key practitioners to gain an understanding of the kind of works created by the company.

2. Watch *Rooster* by Christopher Bruce and make some notes of your initial first impressions of:

- Structure
- Aural setting
- Physical setting
- Choreographic devices
- Styles of dance
- Subject matter/ themes

3. Research into the career of Christopher Bruce and create a colour coded timeline of key events in his career categorised by:

- Key works
- Key events
- Training

- Influences