

Week 6: A HISTORY OF BALLET (Spring 2022)

Ballet in Russia, Britain, USA in 1900s



Cuban dancers Lazaro Carreno, left, and Maria Llorente, right, pose with Alvin Ailey dancer Judith Jamison (center) at New York's City Center on Tuesday in May 1977.

World event timeline (1930-1989)

1930 - The Great Depression

1940 - World War II

1947 - Cold war begins

1953 - Color TV was invented

1955 - Vietnam War, starts and ends after 20 years

1983 - Internet starts

1989 Cold War Ends. Fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

Agrippina Vaganova (1879-1951) Artistic Director of the Kirov Ballet

1934 - **Fundamentals of the Classic Dance** by Agrippina Vaganova. A bible on Soviet technique, also known as **Basic Principles of Classical Ballet**.



[Agrippina Vaganova](#) 39:04

The great & the terrible
documentary film (English
subtitles)

Vaganova with students



1940 Romeo and Juliet by Leonide Lavrovsky.

Music by Sergey Prokofiev.

World premiere: Kirov Theatre of Opera and Ballet

Romeo and Juliet 2:25:20

Maybe The Best Ballerina Performance I
ever Saw - Nadezhda Batoeva as Juliet -
Fillip Stepin - Romeo

Galina Ulanova as Juliet, 1940

1956 Spartacus by Leonide Jacobson.
Music by Aram Khachaturian.
World premiere: Kirov Theatre of
Opera and Ballet

"SPARTACUS" 2:07:13

Aram Khachaturian

"СПАРТАК" Арам Хачатурян /



Circus scene in Yacobson's Spartacus

Mariinsky Ballet

Formerly (1935–91) **Kirov Ballet**, its predecessor, the **Imperial Russian Ballet**, founded in St. Petersburg in 1738.

*Mariinsky Theatre, St. Petersburg,
opened in 1860.*



Bolshoi Ballet, its predecessor, the **Petrovsky Theatre**, established in 1773 in Moscow.



Originated as a dance school for an orphanage.

The Bolshoi Theatre was built in 1821 in Moscow, Russia



Rudolf Nureyev (1938-1993) Principal Dancer of The Royal Ballet. Director of the Paris Opera Ballet (1983-1989) Defected from Russia in 1961.

Rudolf Nureyev 44:09

(1938-1993) Soviet Ballet dancer

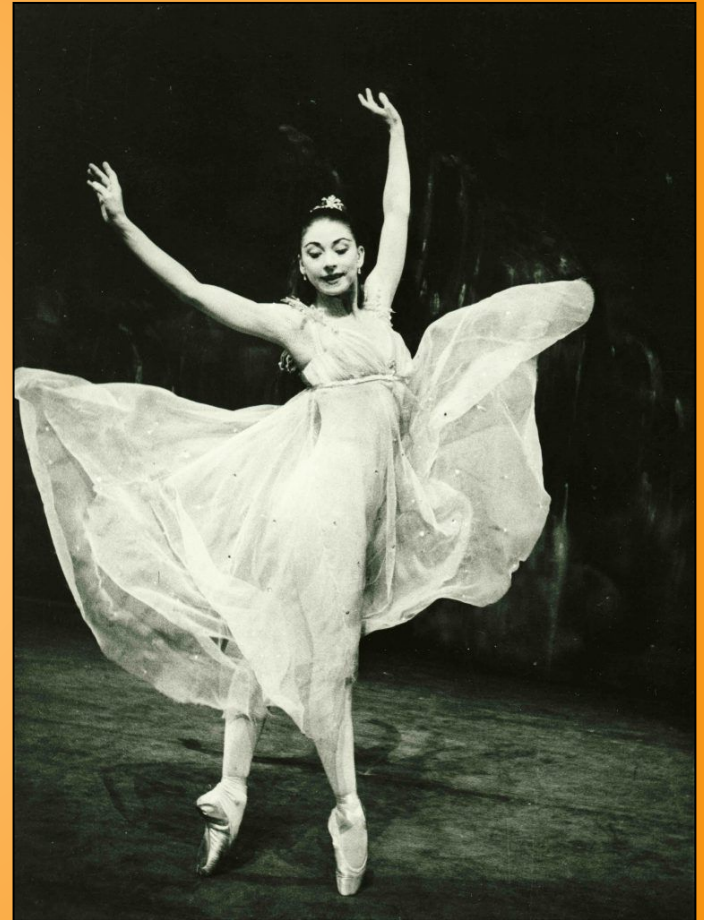
Rudolf Nureyev, New York, 1967 ~ Photo by Richard Avedon

Margot Fonteyn (1919-1991) One of the greatest classical ballet dancers. *Prima Ballerina Assoluta* of the Royal Ballet, appointed by HM Queen Elizabeth II.

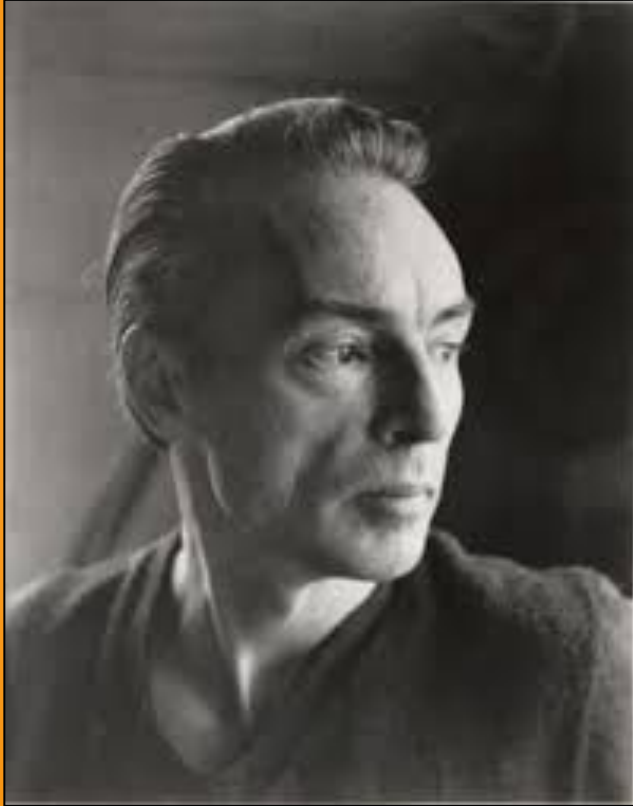
Margot Fonteyn 2:43:27

Margot (Full Film) Tony Palmer Films

Margot-Fonteyn as Ondine -1958- Photo by Roger-Wood



George Balanchine (1904-1983) Co-founder and balletmaster of the New York City Ballet, choreographed more than 400 ballets. He is considered to represent the neoclassical style and is well-known for his modern-yet-classical, clean aesthetic.

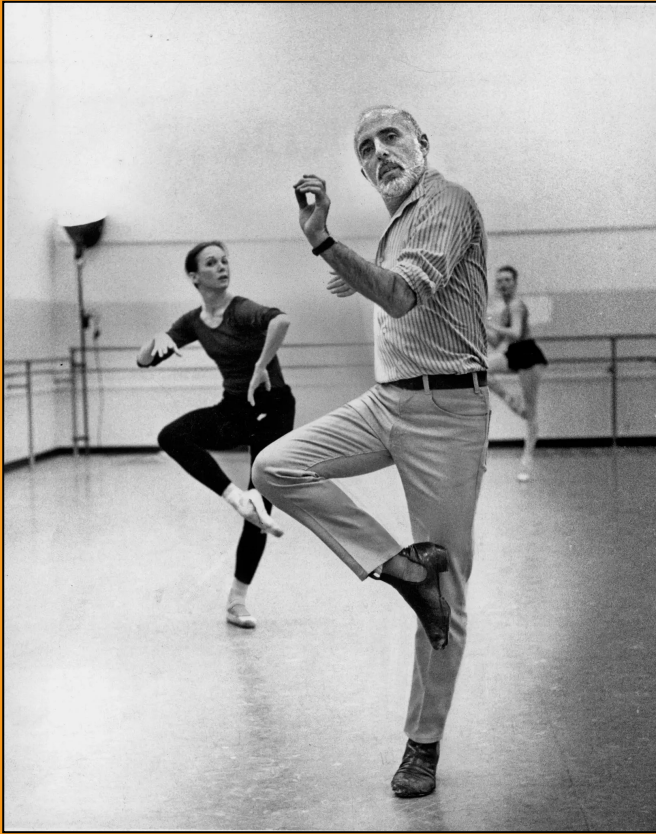


[George Balanchine and New York City Ballet](#) 5:26

[George Balanchine](#) 9:05
A Documentary

Jerome Robbins (1918-1998) Ballet Master of New York City Ballet. Choreographer for the

Joffrey Ballet, and for American Ballet Theater. Recipient of two Academy Awards and five Tony Awards. Co-director and choreographer of the film *West Side Story*.



Robbins working with Allegra Kent on "Dances at a Gathering," in 1969.

[The Life and Sad Ending of Jerome Robbins](#)

Biography of the life of Jerome Robbins 4:19

1944 - [Fancy Free](#) by Jerome Robbins. Music by Leonard Bernstein. A major step in the creation of Contemporary American ballet. 1:03

Alvin Ailey Jr. (1931-1989) was an American dancer, director, choreographer, and activist who founded the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 1958.



Revelations 33:44

Alvin Ailey American
Dance Theater

Revelations—a work which
has been in its repertory since
its creation in 1960

Robert Joffrey (1930-1988) was an American dancer, teacher, producer, choreographer, and co-founder of the Joffrey Ballet, known for his highly imaginative modern ballets. He is credited with bringing a distinctly American approach to dance and with reviving experimental ballets from earlier eras.



Robert Joffrey 5:00
Documentary

Mikhail Baryshnikov (1948 -) is a Russian-American dancer, choreographer, and actor. He was the leading male classical dancer of the 1970s and 1980s. He became the artistic director at American Ballet Theatre 1980 - 1989.

[Mikhail Baryshnikov 12:20](#)
Legendary Solos: Don
Quixote/Giselle UPDATED



TODAY'S VOCABULARY

Arabesques (*ah-rah-besk*) It is a position of the body, in profile. It is to pose on one leg while extending the other leg to the back. 1:17

Développé (*dayv-law-pay'*) To develop. A movement in which the working leg is drawn up to the knee of the supporting leg and slowly extended to an open position en l'air. 0:42

Entrechat (, *äntrə 'SHä*) To jump in ballet, beginning in the fifth position, during which the dancer crosses his straight legs at the lower calf. Numerous rapid crossings. 0:59

TODAY'S VOCABULARY

Grand Battement (*grahn baht-mahn*) “large battement.” To throw the working leg into the air from the hip and brings it back down to a position. 0:33

Mime (*maim*) The art of using the face and body to express emotion and dramatic action. 2:18

Relevé (*rehl-leh-vay'*) Raised. A raising of the body on the points or demi-pointes. 0:27

THE END