

Week 7: A HISTORY OF BALLET (Spring 2022)

Contemporary ballet from 1980's to present



World Events Timeline 1980 - Present

1980 - Neo-Expressionism in Art.

1989 The Berlin Wall Falls. China Tiananmen Square Crackdown.

1990: The World Wide Web is created by Tim Berners-Lee.

1992: Cold War Ends

1994: Amazon.com Born

1998: The Age of Google Begins

2001: 9/11

2004: Facebook Starts

2009: America's First African American President

2020: COVID-19

Contemporary Ballet: A genre of dance that incorporates elements of both classical ballet and modern dance, even current “vernacular” styles such as hip-hop, Latin, folk and jazz

Pioneer Choreographers: Serge Diaghilev, George Balanchine

And: Mikhail Baryshnikov,
Twyla Tharp, Robert Joffrey,
Gerald Arpino, Jorma Elo,
William Forsythe,
Jiri Kylian, Dwight Rhoden,
Alonzo King, Mark Morris,
Trey McIntyre and more.



Twyla Tharp (1941 -): An American dancer, choreographer, and artistic director, founded **Twyla Tharp Dance**. Her work merged elements of popular performing arts—such as jazz, contemporary pop music, and classical music—into dance as an art form that greatly displays human emotion.

Push Comes To Shove by Twyla Tharp 1976.
Baryshnikov in America. Part1 14:42

In The Upper Room by Twyla Tharp 1986.
Kansas City Ballet 3:05



William Forsythe (1949 -): A contemporary ballet dancer and choreographer from the United States. His work is known for being freestyle, which lets ballet dancers have room for experimentation.

In the Middle, somewhat Elevated
1987- Sylvie & Laurent Pas de Deux
3:09

NOWHERE AND EVERYWHERE
AT THE SAME TIME 2013 1:43
An elaborate installation piece at
Tate Modern



Alonzo King (1952 -): An American ballet dancer, choreographer, and the founder and artistic director of the **Alonzo King LINES Ballet** based in San Francisco. He describes his work as thought structures that are created by dancers through the manipulation of energies.

[A choreographer's Brief But Spectacular take on life and movement](#) 2021 3:17

[THE PERSONAL ELEMENT](#) 2019 2:58
Alonzo King LINES Ballet



Mark Morris (1956 -) An American dancer, choreographer and director of **Mark Morris Dance Group**, whose work is acclaimed for its craftsmanship, ingenuity, humor, and at times eclectic musical accompaniments.



[Celebrating 40 Years of the Mark
Morris Dance Group Mini
Documentary 6:09](#)

Dwight Rhoden (1962 -): Rhoden is a US-born choreographer and the co-founder and artistic director of **Complexions Contemporary Ballet**, based in New York City. He

incorporates multiple dance styles into his work, including classical ballet, along with modern and contemporary dance.



[Moon Over Jupiter](#) 2010 5:59

Choreographer Dwight Rhoden (Work Sample)
Complexions ballet

[Unbound Choreographer Interviews: Dwight Rhoden](#) 2018 3:20

Ballet Hispánico was founded by Tina Ramirez in 1970



Ballet Hispánico

2017 4:29

Meet the Dance
Company

TODAY'S VOCABULARY

Fouettés (fweh-TAY) Whipped. A term applied to a whipping movement. 1:08

The Fred Step, from Frederick Ashton. It's a short series of steps. Basically the Fred Step contains the following steps: piqué arabesque, coupé, développé à la seconde (low), pas de bourrée, précipitée. 0:51

Glissade (glee-SAD) Glide. A traveling step executed by gliding the working foot from the fifth position in the required direction, the other foot closing to it. 0:59

