



A Level Dance (AQA) Summer Bridging Work

Welcome to 'A' Level Dance. In preparation for the autumn term, please complete the following tasks as an introduction to elements of the course

Link to [AQA 'A' Level Dance specification](#)

Tasks

Task 1: *Links to Component 1 Performance & Choreography*

Choreograph and perform a 1-minute solo dance on **ONE** of the following questions:

1. Choreograph a dance based on an exploration of Henri Cartier-Bresson's photograph Behind the Gare Saint-Lazare (1932).



In addition, you will write a short programme note to identify how you have chosen to respond to the image.

OR

2. Choreograph a dance based on an exploration of the themes and imagery in the poem Leisure by Amy Lowell (1874–1925).

Leisure, thou goddess of a bygone age,
When hours were long and days sufficed to hold
Wide-eyed delights and pleasures uncontrolled
By shortening moments, when no gaunt presage
Of undone duties, modern heritage,
Haunted our happy minds; must thou withhold
Thy presence from this over-busy world,
And bearing silence with thee disengage

Our twined fortunes? Deeps of unhewn woods
Alone can cherish thee, alone possess
Thy quiet, teeming vigor. This our crime:
Not to have worshipped, marred by alien moods
That sole condition of all loveliness,
The dreaming lapse of slow, unmeasured time.

In addition, you will write a short programme note to identify how you have explored the themes and imagery in the poem.

Further guidance:

When creating your solo consider how the selected movements communicate the idea.

Aim to include the following:

- Clear action, spatial and dynamic elements, in relation to the dance idea
- Use of aural setting

You should also select the aural setting (music or sound) which should relate to the chosen dance idea.

You will perform your solo dance in the first practical lesson in September.

Task 2: Links to Component 2 Critical Engagement

Research information about the career and work of the choreographer Christopher Bruce. Aim to find information about his early training, his work as a dancer, his work as a choreographer and his work with Ballet Rambert/Rambert Dance Company as Associate Director and Artistic Director.

Look for information linked to:

- ✓ Early training and career as a dancer
- ✓ His main influences
- ✓ The stylistic features of his work
- ✓ His choreographic approach (the particular technique, movement style and choreographic style)
- ✓ The importance of Christopher Bruce's work in relation to the development of Rambert Dance Company

You can present your research in a format of your choice e.g. a written biography, detailed PPT presentation, a short documentary film, a detailed information booklet, written essay etc. but **NOT a poster or mind map!**

Task 3: Links to Component 2 Critical Engagement

The compulsory set work for study is 'Rooster' by Christopher Bruce. The work is made up of eight distinct dances:

1. Little Red Rooster
2. Lady Jane
3. Not Fade Away
4. As Tears Go By
5. Paint It Black
6. Ruby Tuesday
7. Play With Fire
8. Sympathy For The Devil

Watch one of these sections on You Tube then complete the two tasks below. To find the videos either search Rooster Christopher Bruce or follow this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4F3B261E734B7D91>

1) Write a 500-word synopsis to include the following:

- Subject matter/theme
- Movement style and content
- Use of dancers and relationships between dancers
- Use of accompaniment
- Contribution made by design elements: costume, lighting, set and props.

2) Learn a 20-30 second section of dance repertoire from your chosen section and be ready to perform it in September!

Miss Lawlor and Mrs Feakins-Taylor

Can't wait to teach you!