

JAZZ

Jazz dance has its origins in hubba bubba of the late 1800s up to the mid 1900s. During the jazz era, popular forms of jazz dance were the Cakewalk, Black Bottom, Charleston, Jitterbug, and the Boogie Woogie just to name a few.

Jazz today is a form of dance commonly used in Broadway shows and movies. More contemporary dance than ballet, it is now an essential part of musical theatre choreography and serves as a base which is easily flavoured by and interwoven with the dance style appropriate for the show. Its performance style is popularised by Bob Fosse's work (e.g. Chicago, Cabaret, Damn Yankees, and The Pajama Game).

TAP

Tap dance was born in the United States during the nineteenth century, and today is popular all around the world. The name comes from the tapping sound made when the small metal plates on the dancer's shoes touch a hard floor. This lively, rhythmic tapping makes the performer not just a dancer, but also a percussive musician. Common, well known tap performers and shows include Fred Astaire, Gene Kelly, and shows Tap Dogs and Hot Shoe Shuffle.

BALLET

The art of **Ballet** can trace its origins to the early seventeenth century, when dancers performed to entertain audiences between scenes of an especially lengthy opera in Italy and Russia.

The typical ballet class attire includes pink, black, or flesh coloured tights and a leotard with an optional short wrap-skirt (or tutu). The dancer wears soft technique shoes, often called *flats* through their classes. Until their bones mature with age, the tendons in the ankles and feet are relatively strong and they have trained for long enough to wear Pointe Shoes (also called Toe shoes), then the dancer usually divides ballet class time between the different shoes.

The techniques found in classical ballet are a framework for many other styles of dance, including hip hop, modern ballet and contemporary ballet.

THEATRICAL

Theatrical consists of a mixture of limbering, musical comedy, tap, modern dance and singing. This is what musical theatre, film and TV is all about.

HIP HOP/FUNK

As seen in video clips, **Hip Hop/Funk** is a dance form that involves modern and up to date techniques with energetic moves that are exciting to dance and to watch. Vibrant, fun and challenging, this style has grown increasingly popular in the past 10 years.