

CHOREOGRAPHY

Choreography is the arrangement of dances in various patterns and styles. There are several patterns and styles involved in choreography. Dancers may move in a unique style and in a particular direction moving their hands, legs, head or waist all at the same time.

Principles of choreography

1. **Order:** This is the organized patterns, procedures and approaches guiding a particular choreography.
2. **Beauty:** This is the attractive nature of a choreography due to its organized nature.
3. **Variety:** This is the mixture of various dance steps, patterns and movements to make it interesting.
4. **Motion:** This is the basis of choreography. It involves all the actions that take place in it such as leaping, turning around, bending etc.
5. **Dynamics:** This is the contrast in speed. A slow movement may be followed by a fast one and vice versa.
6. **Timing:** This is the regulation of dance steps according to time. This helps to create uniform rhythm and coherence.
7. **Space:** This is the area in which all the dancing actions take place.
8. **Body:** This is the use of the several body parts in creating organized motions and patterns.
9. **Repetition:** This is use of repeated steps and motions to create a sense of unity.
10. **Climax:** This is the highest point in a dance. It is usually more vigorous or contain very unique features.

A choreographer is someone who creates, arranges, organizes and teaches dances.

Choreographer are usually needed in theatrical performances. Operas and musicals usually involve a lot of choreography. Choreographers create dance steps or patterns to fit specific music, rhythms or dramatic performances. Below is a choreographer teaching some people dance steps.

Summary

Choreography is the arrangement of dances in various patterns and styles. The principles of choreography are order, beauty, variety, motion, dynamics, timing, space, body, repetition, climax. A choreographer is someone who creates, arranges, organizes and teaches dances.

Review Questions

1. Define Choreography
2. List and explain ten principles of choreography
3. Explain who a choreographer is.