



Humanities Seminars Program Fall 2022 Celebrating Musical Theatre Dance

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Come explore the history and significance of Musical Theatre Dance in the American Musical Theatre genre. Musical Theatre Dance has evolved through the years thanks to many significant choreographers. We will examine the work and style of many of these influential choreographers who have helped shape and mold the American Musical to today. Each week we will discuss different choreographers and their contributions to Musical Theatre. Examples and video footage of choreographers and their dances will be shown and discussed. Additionally, we will focus on what makes each choreographer unique regarding their style and how they work to advance the musical's narrative. This course will celebrate the works of Agnes DeMille, Jerome Robbins, Bob Fosse, Gower Champion, Michael Bennett, Susan Stroman, Jerry Mitchell, Andy Blankenbeuhler, and many others.

Week 1- November 2

Introduction: The Role of the Choreographer in Musical Theatre Dance. Introduction to the major choreographers we'll study and discuss and elements of style

Early beginnings: Agnes DeMille, Michael Kidd

Discussion: Reading

View video clips in-class and discuss

Week 2-November 9

Gower Champion, Jerome Robbins, Jack Cole

Discussion: Reading

View video clips in-class and discuss

Week 3-November 16

Bob Fosse, Michael Bennett, Bob Avian

Discussion: Reading

View video clips in-class and discuss

Week 4-November 30

Tommy Tune, Gillian Lynne, Susan Stroman, Jerry Mitchell

Discussion: Reading

View video clips in-class and discuss

Week 5-December 7

Casey Nicholaw, Rob Marshall, Graciela Danielle, Rob Ashford, Kathleen Marshall

Discussion: Reading

View video clips in-class and discuss

Week 6-December 14

Christopher Gattelli, Peter Darling, Baayork Lee, Andy Blankenbuehler, Justin Peck

Discussion: Reading

View video clips in-class and discuss

Wrap-up of course

Required Text:

- *Cramer, Lyn*-Creating Musical Theatre: Conversations with Broadway Directors and Choreographers ISBN: 1408185326
- Selected readings posted on Box

Recommended Text:

- *Gottfried, Martin*-All His Jazz: The Life and Death of Bob Fosse
- *Lawrence, Greg*-Dance With Demons
- *Wasson, Sam*-Fosse