

- I. Catherine de Medici – 1533 Marries Henry II of France - Court fetes to Frnc.
- II. Louis XIV : (1643 – 1715)

- Absolutist, used dance as tool of state
- Established 1st dance academy – codification begins (1661)
- Academies merge & eventually become Paris Opera & P. Opera Ballet
- Paris Opera Ballet School 1713 – ensured development of Ballet

III. Romanticism – next significant shift – Passion over reason, glorified individuality and freedom of expression, valued imagination and personal vision over logic.

- Lord Byron: gothic novels; Goethe: Faust; Wordsworth: nature
- Delacroix: oriental emotionally charged paintings
- Chopin, Schubert, Mendelssohn, Schumann, Tchaikovsky: Cultural identity/nationalism – included folk themes in music
- Rousseau; writings helped to inspire French revolution, influential in changing art and thought
- 1789 – French revolution, Paris Opera Ballet survives
- Romantic Ballet Motifs:

- Hero – seeks to escape responsibilities of everyday life
- Netherworld – supernatural/mythical female lead
- Ballerina Image: Unearthly perfection, on a higher plane
 - Stage tricks: Suspension wires, stage machinery, gas light, costumes
 - Choreography
 - en pointe
- First Romantic Ballet: La Sylphide

VI. Classical Ballet late 1800's – early 1900's: shift in prominence to Russia

- Stressed form – rules rarely broken
- Emotion second in importance to technique
- Grand Pas de Deux: entrance, adagio, male variation, female variation, concluding duet on coda
- 'Ranking' system for dance artist: Principals, Soloists, Corps de Ballet
- Marius Petipa (1818 – 1910) main proponent
- Classical ballets:
 - The Sleeping Beauty (1890) Petipa
 - The Nutcracker (1892) Ivanov
 - Swan Lake (1895) Petipa & Ivanov

V. Changes to Modern

- Isadora Duncan: career peak 1902 – 1913
- Ruth st. Denis worked around same time – dances inspired by dance of other cultures. Significance:
 - Denishawn – trained 1st generation moderns.
 - Martha Graham, Doris Humphrey , Charles Weidman

VI. Ballet Russe: 1909 - 1929

- Inspired by changes made by people like Duncan. Run by Diaghilev.
- Contemporary Ballet – designed steps to meet needs of the dance, worked with major composers and visual artist, stayed at the vanguard of contemporary art.
- Rite of Spring 1913 – choreog Nijinski, music Stravinsky

VII. Modern dance

- Doris Humphrey (1895 – 1958)
 - Fall and Recovery
 - Martha Graham (1894 – 1991)
 - Contraction and Release
 - Mary Wigman, German, Witch Dance, 1913
- > - no video*

New generations look for own voices.

Postmodern dance 1950's & 1960's beginnings

Merce Cunningham, Alwin Nikolais, Judson Church, Paul Taylor, Twyla Tharpe, ...

Now: open environment – many different things being done, new frontier video dance...
Bandeloop project...