

Time Period	Name	Style	Connections & Evolution
1930s-1940s	Norma Miller (1919-2019)	Lindy Hop, Swing Dance	Known as the “Queen of Swing,”; helped codify Lindy Hop and its aerial moves; her acrobatics, rhythmic timing, and improvisational style directly influenced social and street dances.
	Katherine Dunham (1909-2006)	Modern Dance with an Afro-Caribbean fusion	Bridged concert dance with African diasporic vocabulary.
	Mercedes Baptista (1921-2014)	Afro-Brazilian / Modern Dance	Emphasized cultural memory and identity, influencing Black concert dance.
	Janet Collins (1917-2003)	Ballet	First African-American prima ballerina at the Metropolitan Opera; broke racial barriers.
1950s-1970s	Don “Campbellock” Campbell (1951-2020)	Locking	Created Locking
	Bebe Miller (1950-Present)	Modern/Contemporary	Known for integrating improvisation, Africanist techniques, and theatricality.
	Arthur Mitchell (1934-2018)	Ballet/Modern	First African-American principal dancer with New York City Ballet; co-founder of Dance Theatre of Harlem; integrated classical ballet with African-American cultural expression.
1980s-2000s	Rennie Harris	Hip-Hop (Theatre)	Brought street dance

	(1964-Present)		to concert stages; emphasized hip-hop's social and political narratives; mentor to artists like Camille A. Brown.
	Cynthia Oliver	Modern / Afro-contemporary	Integrates improvisation, Black aesthetics, and activism; blends vernacular and concert forms.
	Fatima Robinson (1971-Present)	Hip-Hop / Commercial	Known for her high-energy, precise hip-hop choreography in music videos and live performances.
2010s-Present	Camille A. Brown (1979-Present)	Narrative Hip-Hop / Africanist Contemporary	Integrates social dance, theater, and storytelling rooted in Black womanhood
	Paris Goebel (1991-Present)	Hip-Hop	She fuses street dance with theatrical storytelling and music video aesthetics. Her style has influenced global commercial hip-hop and inspired contemporary choreographers integrating hip-hop with concert dance.