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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 3 Dance 2023

91594 Analyse a dance performance

Credits: Four

ANSWER BOOKLET

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Analyse a dance performance.	Analyse a dance performance in depth.	Comprehensively analyse a dance performance.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

Use this booklet to answer ONE question from Question Booklet 91594Q. Your sketched and written answers must be completed in ink.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in any cross-hatched area (☒). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Merit

TOTAL 05

Details of the dance performance

Title of the dance performance: "Milagros"

Choreographer/dance group: Javier de Frutos and Royal New Zealand Ballet

Intro:

NOTES

Milagros - Miracle (Spanish)

Javier de Frutos, Royal NZ ballet, contemporary ballet.

Uses intricate pathways

Pathways: Concentric Circle, Canon Line, Small Groups

"Javier de Frutos has been both celebrated & criticised for his work" key idea: Not wanting to be singled out/sacrificed

Themes: motifs.

History:

1913 Paris, France: "The Rite of Spring" - Vaslav Nijinsky (choreo)
- Composer: ^{gor}Stravinsky - Controversial - Went against conventions of classical music.

Highly trained dancers, complexed rhythms, risky movements
Girl dance self to death

Audience Hate

Harvest for village inspired by Ancient Greek Disneyan Beliefs
Tennessee Williams + New Orleans rituals.

"Decayed, gin-soaked, limping ~~and~~ Southern Belles"

Facial Expressions

✓ Concentric Circle: Lines of three x 4, focus on inter part of circle.

Dominance + Control: Men control women, drag them by elbow.

Push motif Gender roles

✓ Canon Line: 2 count canon, Upstage right to DSL

Variation among

Frantic, chasing feel

Not wanting to stand out in society.

✓ Scooping male solo - twice (left to right) then done without scooping
Spanish Walk First time leaving stage

Long line of pursuit + energy

Small Groups: Sacrifice (5, 3, 2, 3)

Knee Walking Pas de deux Lucy + Eliza finally give in their weight.

Change in dynamics

Note: Space is provided on page 7 for diagrams and sketches to be included, if appropriate, in your answer.

Question number: 1

Describe significant pathways used in the dance, and discuss their purpose.

In 2003, Javier de Frutos' "Milagros" was first displayed to New Zealand by the Royal New Zealand Ballet. "Milagros" is the Spanish word for miracle which Javier has used to portray significant pathways, in his dance. He has used a thoughtful structure and created intricate pathways using 12 dancers (6 male and 6 female) to split the dance into four sections: Concentric Circle, Single Circle, Canon Line and Small Groups. These significant pathways bring together key themes, motifs and Javier's purpose of using the pathways. The themes displayed include: Dominance and Control, Pursuit and Chasing, as well as Sacrifice. Along with the motifs displayed: Pushing, knee walking, Scooping, Spanish Walk and limping. ~~Both~~ The key themes, motifs and significant pathways develop Javier's main idea of "not wanting to be singled out." Javier's choreography and determination ~~has~~ to execute this dance precisely is pushed through the use of the significant pathways. This is because "Javier de Frutos has been both celebrated and criticised for his work."

"Milagros" was inspired by Vaslav Nijinsky's 1913

"The Rite of Spring" which was first performed in Paris France. Igor Stravinsky composed this piece of music which became highly controversial due to the piece going against conventions of classical music in that era. This was because from 1900s-1940s classical music and classical ballet was thriving and this piece was so dark. The dance featured highly trained dancers using complex rhythms and risky movements which also inspired Javier's unusual style and geometric shapes in "Milagros." The Rite of Spring, is about a young girl who dances herself to death as chosen as the sacrifice. It was highly controversial to the audience as they did not agree with it that they booed the dancers, threw food at them and some even started fires. The dance evolved around the belief that people used to have where if you sacrificed humans or animals it would bring good harvest to the village. The Rite of Spring also evolves around Ancient Greek Dionysian Beliefs and rituals. Javier used these ideas to choreograph "Milagros" while also travelling to New Orleans to be immersed in Tennessee Williams' lifestyle which Javier adapted the idea that the dancers in "Milagros" are "decayed, gin-soaked, limping Southern Belles" which he used with natural facial expressions ~~at~~ at the performance to give it an oppression feel.

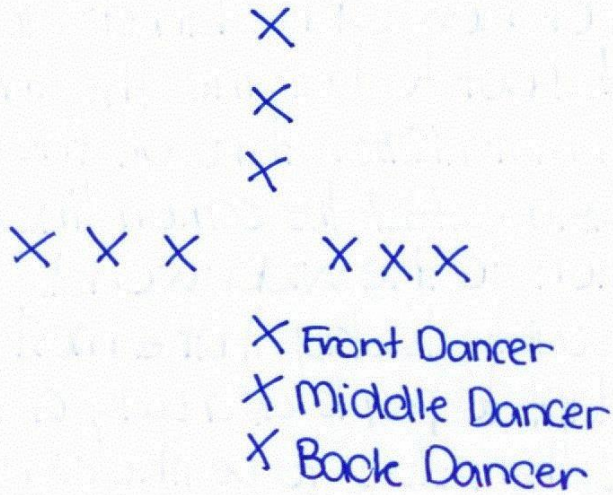
One significant pathway in "Milagros" is the Concentric Circle which has the purpose of displaying the theme 'Dominance and Control' through Gender Roles of the male and female dancers. As the concentric circle begins the dancers are in lines of three around the circle (shown on next page in drawing 1). They focus on the intermost part of the circle. The pushing motif is displayed evidently where the back dancer pushes the middle dancer to the ground forcefully. It is then repeated where the middle dancer pushes the front dancer down with force. A key aspect in this pathway that makes it significant is the use of gender roles. Men push the women down to the ground and even forcefully ~~and~~ drag the women by their elbow to their next position creating a pool of pathways. The purpose of this pathway was to explore the dominance and control men had over women. They are seen ~~is~~ pushing them to the ground, throwing them around and the females have no strength in them to fight back. It is clear that the intricate use of the concentric circle was intended by Javier to shed a light on the power men had over women and that the women were subjected to this. In a wider world context, it can be a reminder and a learning curve of the abuse women faced and how men believed they were above women. Things like this still happen today where women ~~is~~ are sometimes not paid the same as men, doing the same job or are

even able to get a high ranking job in the first place. The concentric Circle in 'Milagros' is a significant way of defining the purpose of gender roles in Milagros but also in a wider world context.

The second significant pathway in "Milagros" is the Canon Line which provides a purpose of "not wanting to be singled out." The canon line starts at 3:06 and ends at 3:45. It is a 2-count canon which the group of 12 dancers travel diagonally from Upstage Right to Downstage Left. It is a short and fast section using the Choreographic device of canon. The 12 dancers in canon repeat each others steps from the person in front but bring variation under close examination where it seems the canon line seem frustrated and frantic to be able to keep up with one another. This pathway is significant because it creates one line of energy, pursuit and chasing. The theme of Pursuit and Chasing is evident through the canon line due to the frantic, chasing feel as the dancers aim to keep up with what the dancer in front is doing as they follow the canon. ^{Spanish Walk} ~~Scooping~~ is a prominent aspect in the ~~dance~~ where canon line as it is performed to get into the canon line but also at the end where dancers exit the stage for the first time while only five dancers remain on the stage. The purpose of the canon line was to

Sketch on this page if you want to illustrate any part of your answer.
Label the sketch to explain the point(s) you are making.

Concentric Circle : Drawing 1



Extra space if required.

Write the question number(s) if applicable.

QUESTION
NUMBER

1 ~~at~~ Canon line:

develop the idea of how each dancer doesn't want to be singled out to become the sacrifice. Javier cleverly communicates through the use of canon and chasing effect the canon line brings on stage. In relation to the wider world, it can be seen in society today that most people try to adapt to people as a way of fitting in. People change themselves to be like everyone else so they don't stand out from everyone. It is important to note that we shouldn't change who we are as a person to fit in with a group of people who as a matter of fact don't know the real you. Overall, the Canon Line is a significant pathway of Milagros which captures a purpose of not wanting to be singled out and become the sacrifice.

The small groups section is a significant pathway in 'Milagros' which develops the purpose of it being how dynamics can change but also the intricate message of people becoming the sacrifice. In the small groups section (5, 2, 3, 2) it displays the difference in the groups but also the manipulation created. The men use women as the sacrificial lambs in this section. knee walking is used to show the

Extra space if required.

Write the question number(s) if applicable.

QUESTION
NUMBER

1 differences between the dancers where some are standing, guiding the dancers in this significant pathway. During the pas de deux's both female dancers give into the males manipulation which shows how they are now being subjected to being the "chosen¹ one" to be sacrificed^{as they travel across the stage}. Javier's main purpose and the pathways purpose was to feed the dancers in to be manipulated and sacrificed which brings a sense of betrayal among the audience. It creates and withholds Javier's main purpose of Milagros where they dancers don't want to be singled out and sacrificed, where in the 2 small groups they fight to not being the outsider which ends up failing when Lucy and Eliza give in their weight to the male dancers. In a wider world context, it relates to the idea where sometimes you have to be singled out from others as much as you try your best not to. Even when becoming the sacrificial lamb you embrace your true self. Overall, the significant pathway of the small groups is shown through its clever purpose of finally submitting to be sacrificed.

To conclude, Milagros cleverly explores significant pathways of: Concentric Circle, Canon Line, and Small Groups with the use of themes: dominance +

Extra space if required.

Write the question number(s) if applicable.

QUESTION
NUMBER

7 control, pursuit + chasing, and sacrifice to form Javier's key purpose of "not wanting to be singled out to be sacrificed." He uses the thoughtful structure, complex rhythms, and geometric shapes to put into perspective the foreseen significance of the pathway sections and Javier's purpose of using them. This essay highlights all of this while providing crucial details into why it shows his purpose in the curation of "Milagros".

Merit

Subject: Dance

Standard: 91594

Total score: 05

Q	Grade score	Marker commentary
One	M5	The candidate identified appropriate pathways in the dance and described them in detail. They provided valid examples from the dance and discussed in some depth how they relate to the ideas in the dance.