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91594A



915941



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA

QUALIFY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD
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SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

Level 3 Dance, 2015

91594 Analyse a dance performance

2.00 p.m. Wednesday 2 December 2015
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 the question you have chosen from Question Booklet 91594Q.

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

Check that this booklet has pages 2–8 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

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

Achievement

TOTAL

4

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Details of the dance performance

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USE ONLYTitle of the dance performance: Ghost DancesChoreographer/dance group: Christopher Bruce - Houston Ballet

Question 2:

NOTES

A)

- * Political oppression ✓
- * lack of human rights ✓
- * Dictatorship ✓ - marxism ✓
- democratic society ✓
- * Universal story ✓
- * Day of Death - death masks ✓

B)

- Allende - Pinochet (1973 - 1990) ✓
- Backing of american ✓
- Chilean human rights committee, giving Bruce work ✓
- Joan Jara (widow + letter) ✓
- Chilean folk music ✓
- Purpose of dance: to evoke a reactions and raise awareness of what was happening in Chile. ✓
- Reaction: The entertainment:
 - Silere in beginning ✓
 - informative as well as entertaining ✓
 - Had deeper messages ✓
- Controversial: - the showing of the disappearances ✓
- ghost dancers as military, evil. ✓

2015/04/08

Question number: 2

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

Part A)

In Christopher Bruce's work of 'Ghost Dances', a key theme/idea is political oppression. In the time that this work was contrived, Chile had just gone from being a democratic society, run by President Allende who was a socialist/marxist, to being a dictatorship run by Pinochet who had overthrown Allende with the help of his 'bloody coup'. This led to a severe lack of human rights as loss of freedom of speech and if anyone opposed Pinochet or spoke badly of his actions, they would disappear, never to be seen again. This oppression was a key theme in 'Ghost Dances' as this is what sparked Christopher Bruce's choreographic intention and purpose of the dance.

Part B)

Christopher Bruce's choreographic intention, or the purpose of the dance was to raise awareness and evoke a reaction from the audience. Whilst he wanted to raise awareness about what was

happening in Chile specifically, he also wanted the dance work to contain a universal story that could be related to any place suffering such oppression. Bruce was approached by a woman named Joan Jara, a widow whose husband had been tortured and killed by Pinochet's bloody coup. ~~She~~ Her influence and Bruce's work with the Chilean Human Rights Committee, who gave him South American folk music with which he fell in love, was the origin behind the purpose of the dance.

As an audience member, my reaction to studying and watching this dance was initially overwhelmed. The visual contrast between the two groups of dancers, the villagers and ghost dancers was appealing and yet confusing; it posed many questions, e.g. 'Why did Bruce choose to portray the military/government as dead beings?'; however, the impacts of having the opening and closing moments ~~the~~ excessively similar was appealing in how it was a change to the constant contrast within the dance. The silence in the beginning of the piece was high in entertainment value as it drew you in and captivated you. The dance was informative yet entertaining which I think helped to show the audience the deeper messages, and help them remember them.

Bruce had his anti-dictatorship and anti Pinochet opinions everywhere throughout the dance. A specific example of this was having the military/government portrayed as undead beings, who were animalistic and predatory in their movement and appearance. Bruce used traditional Chilean 'death masks' on the faces of the ghost dancers, as these masks were traditionally used to preserve the faces of dead people. This idea of preservation of the face is reflective of the military and Pinochet as they were evil people who wanted things perfectly and done his way.

Another controversial viewpoint was how the disappearances (which Pinochet never owned up to) were shown in the dance as his fault. The ghost dancers were shown 'hanging' the villagers after taking them away from the rest of the group. My reaction to this ^{viewpoint} was that it was very bold of Christopher Bruce to depict the Chilean government in such a harsh light when they were still in power when this dance was first performed. Even though the dance was first performed in America, I think this was still a bold move because America had helped to get Pinochet into power, helping him financially and with

weaponry. They did this because the pro-capitalism views of the American government at the time were clashing with Allende's pro-socialism marxist views, and Allende wanted to stop trading with America.

My overall reaction to 'Ghost Dancers' is that it is a strong, political piece with a clear choreographic intention and purpose for the dance which Christopher Bruce has met successfully and the story behind the piece can still be applied to situations in our world today, which is what Bruce wanted for this work.

Achieved exemplar for 91594 2015		Total score	04
Q	Grade score	Annotation	
2	A4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part A and B are clearly identified. • Describes the idea/theme of the dance, however not in detail. • Discusses the purpose of the dance including their personal view point, but does not reach a merit, as the examples from the dance are not detailed enough. 	