

## Brief Description of Ballet:

### Origins of Ballet:

France, 17<sup>th</sup> Century, Versailles Court. King/Emperor Louis XIV loved to dance and perform for the court, and created the first steps of ballet. He was called the Sun King because he supposedly received his power from the God, and his dancing performance was God-Like...



Louis XIV Performing



Louis XIV Performing

### Characteristics of Ballet:

Europeanist Aesthetics: God-Like, Lightness, Up-right, Monarchy, Straight Sp



Famous Ballet Swan Lake



Court Dance in Versailles

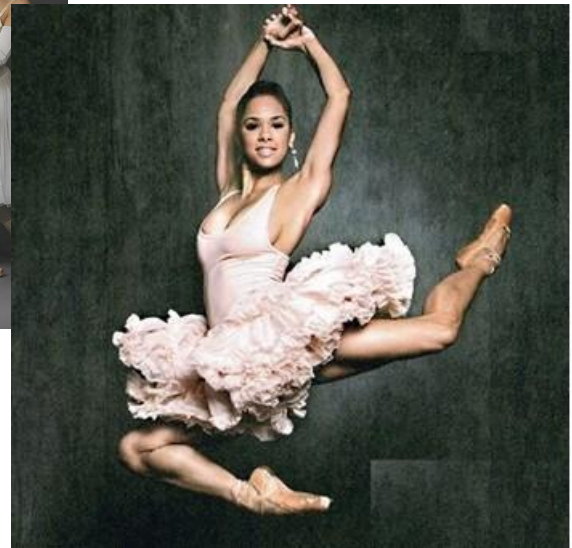


Pas de Deux (Duets)

Ballerinas wear point shoes. Ballets usually represent love stories between Princes and Princesses.

**Ballet Today:**

The dances become more and more virtuosic with time. Ballet used to lack of diversity, until a few decades ago, where people from other races and ethnicities, such as African American Ballet dancers decided to challenge the conservative traditions of Ballet. Today, Misty Copeland, is one of the world most famous dancer, and is the first African American Soloist in the history of the American Ballet Theater. Ballet also changed with time in regard to the aesthetics, stories, gender, and sexuality. More and more men wear point shoes and “tutus”, and ballet is now more open to different body types and phenotypes than it used to be.



Trocadero is a male-only company performing with humor famous ballets

Misty Copeland, ABT first Soloist



In this contemporary ballet, the female is leading the man, which is avant-garde in comparison to the traditional ballets



Alvin Ailey Dance Theater Company recruits primarily African American Dancers to show the history of marginalization in arts and in society in 20<sup>th</sup> century USA. The dancers' technique is known to be very energetic and virtuosic

Learn more about Misty Copeland Story (short video) :

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WulQA6d\\_NAw&t=34s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WulQA6d_NAw&t=34s)