‘Seduction of Cools’: Evolution of Jazz Dance Through Research and Choreography

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Jazz Dance

Constantly evolving and refining itself

I. Pre-history
   - The African Tradition & Diaspora
   - The initial blend
II. Dance from 1905 - 1940
   - The Vermacular
   - evolved into other dance
III. Dance from 1940’s
   - The Cole influence into show-centered dance.

France

For this choreographic project, I was provided with a Faculty Mentor, Joyce Lichtenberger, who acted as my advisor.

Germany

Works in Progress Showcase (WIPS)
March 28, 2013
Michigan, USA

Company

• Rooted in a tradition of dance excellence founded by Linda Swiniuch in 1990
• counselor at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. This position required performance of a self
   created solo, and to assist in the summer with all students.
• The Blue Lake International Exchange Program couples this philosophy with the
   concept of giving the international student the opportunity to experience America
   in a safe and authentic manner.

Using Research to Inform Choreography and Performance

Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp International Ballet Ensemble

Touring Countries:
- Belgium
- Denmark
- Germany
- Italy
- France
- Michigan, USA

Zodiac Dance Ensemble

- The company is a pre-professional education/training/performance programs.
  - Range of performance includes modern, contemporary, jazz, hip hop, classical, experimental, popular, abstract, and theatrical dance etc.
- Company’s mission statement: Rooted in a tradition of dance excellence founded by Linda Swiniuch in 1990, and combined with artistic diversity of faculty and student backgrounds, talent and experiences, we wish to share valuable educational knowledge and professional experiences - to develop intelligent passionate workers that promote the fullest understanding of dance and its respectful place in art and culture.
- As a second company to the Dance Department’s Zodiac Dance Company, the Zodiac Dance Ensemble gains understanding the opportunity to expand and develop in a professional company setting, working with student choreographers, faculty and guest artists.

Choreographic Proposal

My proposal submission:

PART I (Personal Statement): Discuss your interest in choreography and/or in the development of your choreographic skills. (Why do you want to choreograph for ZDE?)

PART II: Discuss your proposed idea/concept for your work

I would like to further develop the solo that I performed across Europe this past summer. "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend", also known as the famous "Popo the Puppet" song. This piece is known for its sexy and saucy nature, and I believe it would be a perfect fit for the Zodiac Dance Ensemble. Through research and analysis of the piece, I have come to understand the complex nature of the work and how it can be adapted for a new audience.

I have been working on this piece for several months, and I am now ready to take it to the next level. My goal is to create a new storyline that will capture the essence of the original piece while also incorporating my own style and interpretation.

The piece is set in a brothel during the Roaring Twenties, and the characters are all struggling with their own demons. I believe this style of dance will be perfect for the Zodiac Dance Ensemble, as it will allow the performers to showcase their individuality and creativity.

I am excited to see how this piece will develop and how it will be received by the audience. I am confident that it will be a success, and I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with the Zodiac Dance Ensemble and create something truly unique and special.

PART III: Please submit a sample of your work—at least 3 minutes.