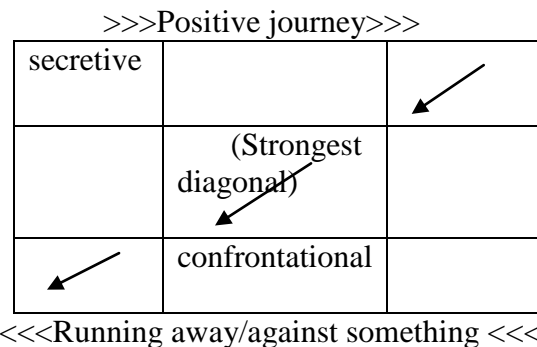


Elements of Choreography

Choreography: The art of designing dances. Dance is a language of movement, and choreography is putting that language into form. A choreographer is a maker, a creator of dances.

Elements of Choreography:

1. Energy (active/passive, strong/gentle, movement qualities)
 - a. Swinging Movement (ex. The motion of the pendulum in a Grandfather's clock)
 - b. Percussive Movement (very obvious starts and stops, with no continuity)
 - c. Sustained Movement (flow, with no obvious beginning or ending. Clear continuity with nothing to break the smooth progression of directed energy)
 - d. Vibratory Movement (a repetition of individual start-and-stop patterns. A hypnotic effect in such movement, as in a persistent jitter)
 - e. Suspended Movement (the point of resistance to gravity where, for an instant – as at the height of a leap or just before a fall – the dancer seems to be suspended in space)
 - f. Collapse (release of energy, relaxed and without tension)
2. Space (position and dimension)
 - a. Position: Level in regards to the floor and direction in which he/she is moving
 - b. Dimension: Size of the dancer's movement (shape, designs in space)
 - c. Focus (out/in)
 - d. Symmetry/Asymmetry in staging
 - e. Space is symbolic:



3. Time (speed/tempo and rhythm)
 - a. Stillness, duration, regular/irregular, momentum

Forms (The most basic three forms...)

1. Music Forms: A B A A A B A
 - a. Three Approaches to Music in Dance
 - i. Chance Dance (no initial relation to music and movement)
 - ii. Music Visualization (you are a part of the orchestra)
 - iii. Musical Interpretation (capture emotion of the song)
2. Rondo Form: A B A C A D A E ...
3. Theme and Variation (a tree in fall, winter, spring, summer)

Choreographic Devices

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels • Planes (changing) • Tempo (take rhythm and do it faster/slower)/Change Rhythms • Traveling • Retrograde (rewind the phrase) • Reverse or put movement in new orders • Qualities • Force • Staging (focus/direction) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repetition • Inversion (high to low/low to high) • Size/range of movement • Instrumentation (different body part) • Additives/incorporating • Embellishment • Fragmentation • Combination |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

