

Baroque Dance for Musicians Fall 2017

Journal Portfolio

[Insert your name here]

Journal 1: September 5

Mouvement

Though the Baroque period is often associated with ornamentation, Waxman (2000) states, “We can get lost in the intricacies of the many baroque step patterns and miss the overall movement, pulse, and characteristics that give individuality to each of the basic baroque dance forms.” Turocy (2012) talks about ‘the fractal concept’ and how one’s thought, body movement, and relationship to others and geometry in space are constantly ‘self-similar’ or ‘progressively ever-finer recursive detail at increasing magnifications.’ Starting with the foundational level of the mouvement we will be able to further explore the fractal layers of phrasing, shaping, and dynamic that give each form its own character and personality.

1. Find your internal breath pulse (inhale and exhale) – let it guide your bend and rise.
2. Now select your own tempo and focus on coordinating the bend before the downbeat, and the rise on the first beat of your measure – try moving it in space.
3. Finally, practice it to the music found on NYU Classes under Resources, Journals, Sept 5.

While the mouvement (bend and the rise) is defined by the endpoints of the bend and the rise, what happens between? How and where do the actions initiate (in your breath, in releasing your knees, in pushing off of the floor, etc.)? Does the quality of your breath guide or change with the appropriate timing?

Baroque Dance for Musicians Fall 2017

Journal Portfolio

[Insert your name here]

**Journal 2: September 12
Pas de bourees and Coupes**

Meredith Little and Natalie Jenne in *Dance and Music of JS Bach* (2001) talk about the terms *arsis* (measures of movement) and *thesis* (measures of repose). Each phrase of music and dance is thusly given shape by the journey between these moments of movement and repose.

1. With this in mind take the time to practice the pas de bouree step from class (three transfers of weight) – add arms or change directions as you feel comfortable and then practice it to the music provided on NYU Classes. Do specific musical measures seem to support the pas de bouree more than others? Why?
 2. Repeat your practice to the second selection of music provided. Does the different meter affect the *shape* or *quality* of the step? Do you have to use your breath differently to support the movement?
 3. Repeat steps one and two using the coupe step (two transfers of weight) and respond to that experience.
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Journal 3: September 19 Context and Video Reflection

Take a moment to watch the BBC Documentary *The King Who Invented Ballet*. It may be found at this link:

https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search;_ylt=A0LEVjcLCa5Zq0UAuwQPxQt.?p=the+king+who+invented+ballet&fr=yhs-Lkry-SF01&fr2=piv-web&hspart=Lkry&hsimp=yhs-SF01&type=Tarrv_COIN_2_A00Q9_set#id=4&vid=0a27524b253a1b188e5769ecea80c5ad&action=view

or under your NYU Classes Journal Resources.

Feel free to watch the whole thing, but I would like you to focus and respond to the moments listed below. Your reflection should talk about the information presented and your response to it... What surprised you or excited you? What questions did it inspire? What would you like to further investigate etc.

- 2:48 – 18:45 Overviews and origins etc.
 - 21:55 – 27:52 Lully, character dances etc.
 - 34:27 – 48:46 Dancing masters, training, politics etc.
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Journal 4: September 26

Minuet and Passepied

How did your experience moving in this specific dance form highlight something new in the music? What are the primary characteristics of the form? What character do you think would do this style of movement (Peasant, Magician, Harlequin, Noble Man/Woman, Lover etc...) Why? Did you have a favorite part of class? What elements would you like explore in greater depth?

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**Journal 5: October 3
Bouree and Rigaudon**

How did your experience moving in this specific dance form highlight something new in the music? What are the primary characteristics of the form? What character do you think would do this style of movement (Peasant, Magician, Harlequin, Noble Man/Woman, Lover etc...) Why? Did you have a favorite part of class? What elements would you like explore in greater depth?

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**Journal 6: October 10
Gigue, Forlana, and Loure**

How did your experience moving in this specific dance form highlight something new in the music? What are the primary characteristics of the form? What character do you think would do this style of movement (Peasant, Magician, Harlequin, Noble Man/Woman, Lover etc...) Why? Did you have a favorite part of class? What elements would you like explore in greater depth?

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**Journal 7: October 17
Gavotte, Allemande, and Musette**

How did your experience moving in this specific dance form highlight something new in the music? What are the primary characteristics of the form? What character do you think would do this style of movement (Peasant, Magician, Harlequin, Noble Man/Woman, Lover etc...) Why? Did you have a favorite part of class? What elements would you like explore in greater depth?

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Journal 8: October 24
Courante and Entrée Grave

How did your experience moving in this specific dance form highlight something new in the music? What are the primary characteristics of the form? What character do you think would do this style of movement (Peasant, Magician, Harlequin, Noble Man/Woman, Lover etc...) Why? Did you have a favorite part of class? What elements would you like explore in greater depth?

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Journal 9: October 31

Sarabande

How did your experience moving in this specific dance form highlight something new in the music? What are the primary characteristics of the form? What character do you think would do this style of movement (Peasant, Magician, Harlequin, Noble Man/Woman, Lover etc...) Why? Did you have a favorite part of class? What elements would you like explore in greater depth?

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**Journal 10: November 7
Chaconne and Passacaglia**

How did your experience moving in this specific dance form highlight something new in the music? What are the primary characteristics of the form? What character do you think would do this style of movement (Peasant, Magician, Harlequin, Noble Man/Woman, Lover etc...) Why? Did you have a favorite part of class? What elements would you like explore in greater depth?

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Journal 11: November 14

Review Day

Take a moment to reflect on the class and the review process.

Did anything new stand out? What was your favorite part? Your favorite form? Why?

Did you encounter any specific challenges? What helped you overcome those?
