

Jiri Kylian: Six Dances

The whole dance was unified by this central idea of this “give and take” motion between the partners. Even as the dancers switched in and out of the piece, the recurring idea of giving and taking not only energy but dance phrases off of the other partner/partners continued to play throughout the piece. Also another characteristic of the whole piece was that all the moves were very “jumpy” and “sharp” which a huge variance in levels. For our piece I think we could do a lot by finding one central idea much like Kylian did instead of being so spread out with many opposing ideas but not one that unified the whole piece. By finding that unifying piece I think it would help to bring some more cohesion to the whole process. Also I would also like to incorporate the same use of differentiating levels that Kylian had into to our piece to bring our choreography onto multiple planes.

Nicholas Brothers: Stormy Weather

What I love so much about the Nicholas Brothers' choreography in Stormy Weather is that they are all about the unexpected. When people think of tap dancing, most people think of staying on your feet, but as the Nicholas Brothers prove in this piece, tap dancing can be taken to multiple levels. For my tap parts in our piece, I would like to explore different levels other than standing much like the Nicholas Brothers did. For our piece as a whole, I think it would be great to also play with this element of being unexpected. This could help to bring our piece to a new level and further develop our original ideas. Also the Nicholas Brothers use a lot of canon work which is a good, basic choreographic technique to remember for our piece and to help unify our choreography.