

## A Level Dance Summer Independent Learning Activity

Welcome to A Level Dance, please complete the following tasks ready for your first day at Pontefract New College.

### **Task 1 Compulsory Content**

Understanding practitioners from American Jazz Dance 1940-1975; the selected practitioner is **Jerome Robbins**.

Task 1.1 – Create a presentation on the origins of Jazz Dance. Within this presentation ensure you cover the following topics;

- Where Jazz Dance originated
- How the style was developed over time
- Who were the key influences in the style?
- What are the stylistic qualities of the genre?

Task 1.2 - Research the professional Jazz choreographer Jerome Robbins, ensure you have knowledge and understanding of;

- His dance training and influences from Dance and other genres
- Collaborations with other artists
- Stylistic qualities of his individual Jazz technique
- Themes covered in his work

### **Task 2**

Prepare a short solo performance of between 1-2 minutes to a piece of music of your choice. This must be performed during the initial weeks of term as your audition piece and showcase your strengths as a performer in a style of your choice.

### **Task 3 – Strongly Recommended Additional Content**

Task 3.1 – Watch, analyse and make notes on the following clips from two of Jerome Robbins' professional pieces.

1. West Side Story

The Prologue

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxoC5Oyf\\_ss](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxoC5Oyf_ss)

Cool

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wugWGHltaQA>

2. Fancy Free

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Ou-O9Awkzo>

When analysing any professional work, please ensure you make comments on the constituent features including:

- Lighting
- Costume
- Music (Aural setting)
- Set
- Stylistic features of the dance – including dancers used.
- How do the above features communicate the themes?

**Assessment:** You will be assessed on your knowledge of Jerome Robbins as a practitioner and also the two professional works that have been named above.

Please ensure you bring this work to your first Dance class in September.