HOW TO MAKE CHOREOGRAPHY MORE EFFECTIVE?

There is no single approach to creating a dance that has a clear sense of development, certain characteristics are common to many effective pieces of choreography. Those qualities are unity, continuity, transition, variety, and repetition.

A dance must have unity. The separate movements in the choreography must flow together, and each must contribute to the whole; eliminate phrases not essential to the intent of the work.

Continuity is another characteristic of an effective piece of choreography. Choreography with continuity develops in a way that leads to a logical conclusion. The emphasis is on the process of happening, and the observer is swept along to the end. The choreographer provides a natural and organized progression of phrases so that one movement phrase leads naturally into the next.

Transitions from one sequence into another are acceptable because each is an integral part of the choreography and contributes to the unity of the dance. On the other hand, if the observer finds progression from one phrase to another noticeable, the transitions are probably poor.

To maintain the audience's interest, the choreographer must include variety in the development of a dance. The same phrase or movement performed again and again becomes tedious and boring. Contrasts in movement forces and spatial designs in the unity of a work add excitement.

Some repetition, however, is important to dance form. Repetition gives a feeling of closure to a work. Repetition emphasizes movements and phrases that are important to the dance.

References:

1. Sandra C. Minton Choreography. A Basic Approach Using Improvisation. 3rd Edition, 2007. – 176 p.