

BALLET

Humanity dances from its beginning. Joy, sadness, love, hope are finding their place in the emotions of movements on music.

The first steps to the development as art were made in Italy, in the XVth century when Domenico from Piacenza described for the first time around 20 dances inside a book.

An another Italian woman, queen of France, Caterina de Medici, alone after the death of Henry the IInd, invited at the Court from Paris, dancers, coregraphs and componists from its native country, organizing, at the marriage of Count de Joyeuse with Mademoiselle de Vaudemont from the 15th of November 1581, o party, “directed” by the violon player Balthazar de Beaujoyeux. Balthazar, Italian too, “produced” at Bourbon Palace, “*Ballet Comique de la Reine*”, considered as the first trial to integrate music, dance and an action.

The name of the new art comes from the Italian word “ballare”- to dance. During the XIII- XIV centuries, “ballet” was meaning a song accompanying a dance, and in France was including the lirics too.

The King Louis the XIVth, is the one who set up the Royal Academy for Music and the Royal Academy for Dance, as the Ballet of the National Opera from Paris. Pierre Beauchamp, the first ballet “master” from the Academy, defined 5 positions of the legs; after two centuries, in 1930 Serge Lifar added two more...

Opera hold the hand to the ballet and brings it in the shows from the XVIIIth century. Lateron, in 1832, “La Sylphide” from the Paris Opera, by Jean Schneitzhöffler, on a libret written by the tenor Adolphe Nourrit is the debut of a first great romantic ballerina: Marie Taglioni.

The XXth century brought the modern ballet, concentrating more on the movement of the dancers as on the general story of the show.

Let us remember some names we will meet in the next pages: Petipa, Ana Pavlova, Ceaikovski, Delibes, Diaghilev, Barašnikov, Nureyev, Alonso, Balshoi, white and black swans, nuts cracker...

Plan of the exhibit

1. Ballet all over the World
2. The Modern Ballet
3. Great Dancers
4. Composers, Choreographs and the Result of Their Work
5. Ballet in Paintings