

Liss Fain Dance: Outreach and Residencies

Liss Fain: Master Class Description

Liss Fain's master classes focus on teaching selections from Liss Fain's repertory—movement that is technically and creatively demanding, requiring the dancer to work from a strong physical and intellectual base. In order to prepare for the repertory work, the class begins with a warm-up that develops strength, suppleness and precision through the integration of modern dance and ballet techniques. The repertory work concentrates on learning movement phrases, and then, working within specific parameters, creating variations of those phrases. These variations result in movement that ranges from being only minimally similar to the original phrase to clearly related to the original phrase. Because Liss Fain's choreographic process involves the individual dancer in the shaping of the movement phrases from the original movement into the completed work, the full involvement—personal commitment to the work—of the student is essential to the process. Both individual and group work is included as the repertory phrases are developed.

One-Week Intensive

The goal of a 5-day intensive is to teach the choreographic process used in Liss Fain Dance rehearsals as well as to master a section of repertory. Liss Fain Dance company members teach a 30-minute technique class as a warm-up and then teach an hour of repertory. If there is more time available, the technical warm-up is longer and more time is devoted to the creative aspect of the choreographic process. At the conclusion of the intensive, the students perform the section of repertory they have learned.

Ongoing Classes (one class a week)

The goal of the ongoing classes is to train students in the technical foundation and the creative process of the Liss Fain Dance repertory. The classes begin with a technical warm-up, and then take the students through the process of learning a movement phrase, working creatively with the phrase as is done in rehearsal and putting this individualized version into a choreographic structure. The students learn both the actual choreography of a piece in repertory and also work with the Liss Fain Dance company members to create their own choreography using the movement phrases they have manipulated/restructured and the tools used in a LFD rehearsal to structure this movement.