



# Embracing the Conflict and the Aesthetic of the Cool: Promoting Jazz Dance as a Foundational Technique in Dance Education

By: Kaitlin Yankovich

# Overview

- Ballet is presented to the dance community as a foundation for dance training. Why?
- Born in the United States, the Jazz dance genre should be considered a foundational technique.

Polyrhythm/Polycentrism

Juxtaposition

Improvisation

Ephedism

Embrace the conflict

Aesthetic of the cool

▪As a result of my research, I would like to see dance programs consider Jazz dance as an equal in foundational training while making more authentic choices of this aesthetic.

# Jazz Dance History and Evolution

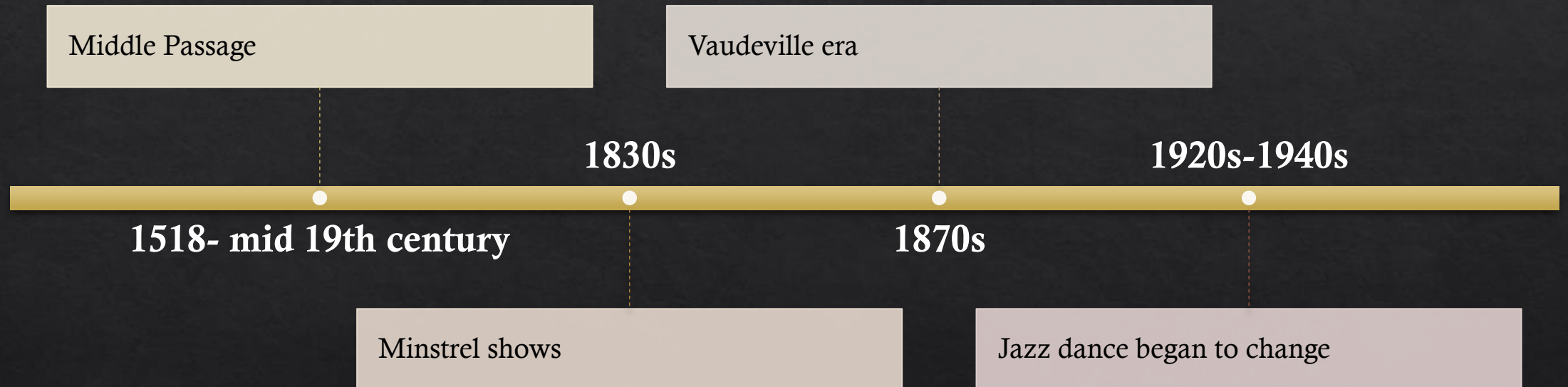
---

Origin: West African and Anglo culture

---

Jazz dance developed alongside the progression of Jazz music, responding to each other's characteristics and inspiring each other's development.

# Jazz Dance History and Evolution







# Ballet's Influence on Jazz

Technical ballet training became integrated

Loss of improvisation

Verticality

Quantity vs Quality

# The Elements of Jazz Dance

Polyrhythm/Polycentrism

Juxtaposition

Improvisation

Ephebism

Embrace the conflict

Aesthetic of the cool





The characteristics of authentic jazz dance should be recognized and honored within our dance programs and education system to benefit the development of our dancers.



