Ballet Master Activity of Jiří Kylián: From the Ballet Stage to Cinema Dance

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Abstract

The purpose of the article is to highlight the stages of Jiří Kylián’s ballet master activity and its influence on the development of choreographic art of the postmodern era. Research methodology. Analysis, synthesis, generalization, systematization, which were used to determine the state of the problem, identification of biographical information, characteristics of the choreographer’s activity of Jiří Kylián; biographical method, which contributed to the study of creative activity of the choreographer; historical-genetic analysis and the method of periodization, which allowed to consider the problem of research in the time continuum and to distinguish four stages of choreographer-philosopher’s ballet master activity and find out the features of style, choreographic language at each stage. Scientific novelty.

Index terms—choreography, staging, ballet, ballet master, dance theater, choreographer-philosopher, film dance.

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Research methodology. Analysis, synthesis, generalization, systematization, which were used to determine the state of the problem, identification of biographical information, characteristics of the choreographer’s activity of Jiří Kylián; biographical method, which contributed to the study of creative activity of the choreographer; historical-genetic analysis and the method of periodization, which allowed to consider the problem of research in the time continuum and to distinguish four stages of choreographer-philosopher’s ballet master activity and find out the features of style, choreographic language at each stage. Scientific novelty. For the first time in Ukrainian art history the stages of Jiří Kylián’s choreographic activity are covered; the essence of Kylián’s unique author’s style is revealed; generalized methods and specifics of the artist’s work with dancers of his own troupe at the Dutch Dance Theater; the peculiarities of Kylián’s choreographic language are revealed through the prism of the postmodern era. Conclusions. It is proved that Jiří Kylián’s ballet master activity is characterized by four stages (plotdramaturgical, "black-and-white", remote-subconscious, filmdance) and is marked by the author’s style, experimental innovation, which consists in dividing the ballet troupe by age category and participation of dancers in the staging process. The postmodern philosophical-aesthetic concept presupposes the search for a new choreographic direction, which is embodied in Jiří Kylián’s film dance. The traditional version of «Carmen» presented by Kylián in a new tragicomic interpretation became the standard of short choreographic films and showed the general public a completely different interpretation. The classic relationship and feelings between man and woman that are present in Bizet’s «Carmen», Kylián turns into a woman’s love for the car, due to the mundaneness of post-industrial society.
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