

COLORADO BALLET

A Comparative Ballet History

Provided by the Department of Education and Outreach

1581. The first ballet, *Ballet Comique de la Reine*, is performed in Paris for the court of Catherine de Médicis.



1651. King Louis XIV dances in public for the 1st time at the age of 12

1681. The first professional female dancers appear at the Paris Opera

1713. The Paris Opera Dance School opens



1726. Marie Camargo debuts at the Paris Opera in a shortened skirt

1761. *Don Juan* (Angiolini/Gluck)

1789. *La Fille Mal Gardée* (Dauberval/unknown)

1778. La Scala Milan opens



1832. Marie Taglioni dances the first *La Sylphide en pointe*

1840. Fanny Elssler begins her American tour

1841. *Giselle* (Coralli/Adam)

1856. *Le Corsaire* (Mazilier/Adam)

1845. Perrot's *Pas de Quatre* is set on the time's most famous ballerinas



1866. Degas begins painting ballet scenes

1869. Marius Petipa becomes Ballet Master at Russia's Imperial Ballet School, choreographs *Don Quixote*

1870. *Coppélia* (St. Leon/Delibes)

1877. *Swan Lake* debuts to bad reviews

1881. First blocked pointe shoes used

Renaissance

Baroque

Pre Romantic

Romantic

1500 1550 1600 1650 1700 1725 1750 1800 1810 1820 1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880

POLITICS

1533. Pope Clement VII excommunicates King Henry VIII after his divorce, leading to the establishment of the Church of England

1607. John Smith leads the first North American settlement at Jamestown

1644. The Manchus penetrate the Great Wall of China, ending the Ming Dynasty

1720-1722. The Bubonic plague (Black Death) kills more than 100,000 in France

1789 - 1799. The French Revolution

1803 - 1815. The Napoleonic Wars

1820. A Russian expedition discovers Antarctica

1846-1848. The Mexican-American War

1861-1865. The American Civil War

1870-1871. The Franco-Prussian War

LITERATURE

1502. The Inquisition bans all Muslims from Spain

1516. Thomas More's *Utopia*

1590-1612. William Shakespeare writes his famous plays

1611. The King James Bible

1621. The *Mayflower* arrives at Plymouth

1667. Milton's *Paradise Lost*

1703. Czar Peter the Great founds St. Petersburg, Russia

1726. Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*

1730s. Watteau exemplifies the French Rococo style

1759. Voltaire's *Candide*

1775 - 1783. The American Revolutionary War

1789. George Washington becomes the 1st President of the United States

1798. Wordsworth and Coleridge's *Lyrical Ballads*

1810 - 1821. The Mexican War of Independence

1812-1815. The American War of 1812 is fought with Britain and its colonies

1813. Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*

1818. Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*

1820. The *Venus de Milo* is discovered on the island of Melos

1830. President Andrew Jackson signs the Indian Removal Act so that the U.S. can claim land east of The Mississippi

1830. Emily Dickinson born

1832. Goethe's *Faust*

1845. Dumas' *The Count of Monte Cristo*

1848. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels publish the Communist Manifesto

1843. Edgar Allan Poe's *The Tell-Tale Heart*

1855. Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*

1861-1865. The American Civil War

1862. Victor Hugo's *Les Miserables*

1865. Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace*

1866. Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*

1868. Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*

1870-1871. The Franco-Prussian War

1880. The term "boycott" is coined when Irish farmers refuse to work for British landlord of same name

ART

1507. Da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*

1512. Michelangelo completes the ceiling of the Sistine chapel

1600. Caravaggio becomes a sensation in Rome

1642. Rembrandt completes *Night Watch*, his most famous work

1667. 1st documented successful blood transfusion

1730s. Watteau exemplifies the French Rococo style

1741. Vivaldi dies, Handel's *Messiah*

1742. Anders Celsius postulates his temperature scale

1763, 1777. Greuze's portraits: *W. A. Mozart* and *Benjamin Franklin*

1793. Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin

1801. Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*

1809. Haydn dies

1812. Scotsman Henry Bell perfects the steam boat

1814. Ingres' *La Grand Odalisque*

1814. George Stephenson invents the 1st steam locomotive

1818. Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*

1820. The *Venus de Milo* is discovered on the island of Melos

1821. Louis Braille develops a system of reading for the blind

1826. Mendelssohn composes the *A Midsummer Night's Dream* overture at 17

1830. Delacroix's *Liberty Leading the People*

1834. "The Alphabet Song" copyrighted

1837. Simeon Denis Poisson establishes the rules of probability

1843. Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman*

1844. Impressionist Mary Cassatt is born in Pennsylvania

1849. Elizabeth Blackwell is the 1st female doctor in the U. S.

1852. Elisha Otis invents the passenger elevator

1855. Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*

1861. Liszt retires to Rome, where he becomes an abbé

1862. Richard Gatling invents the revolving machine gun

1865. Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace*

1866. Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*

1873. Monet's *Impression, Sunrise*. The term Impressionism is derived from this title

1875. Bizet's *Carmen*

1876. Brahms' 14-year project, *Symphony No. 1*

1877. *Swan Lake* debuts to bad reviews

1881. Renoir's *Luncheon of the Boating Party*

1885. Karl Benz creates the first gas-powered automobile

1889. Van Gogh's *Starry Night*

MUSIC

1533. First book of madrigals published

1597. Peri's *Dafne*, the earliest known opera

1637. Teatro San Cassiano, the 1st public opera house, opens in Venice

1680. Pachelbel's *Canon in D Major*

1681. Lully is named King Louis XIV's Court Secretary

1741. Vivaldi dies, Handel's *Messiah*

1742. Anders Celsius postulates his temperature scale

1761. Mozart composes his first works at the age of five

1801. Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata*

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1814. The *Star-Spangled Banner*

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1893. Tchaikovsky dies

SCIENCE

1521. Magellan discovers the Philippines, is killed by natives

1543. Copernicus dies in Poland

1582. The Gregorian calendar is arrived at

1586. Simon Stevin introduces decimal fractions to Mathematics

1600. Caravaggio becomes a sensation in Rome

1620. Francis Bacon proposes the Scientific Method

1633. Galileo on trial for upholding Copernicus' theory that Earth revolves around the Sun

1667. 1st documented successful blood transfusion

1687. Isaac Newton publishes his laws of motion

1742. Anders Celsius postulates his temperature scale

1752. Benjamin Franklin flies kite in storm, isolates electricity

1793. Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin

1804. World population reaches 1 billion

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1866. Dostoevsky's *Crime and Punishment*

1872. Louis Pasteur investigates fermentation

1875. Bizet's *Carmen*

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1893. Tchaikovsky dies