



Mark Haim Video Dance Lesson Middle School/High School

Brief Description

Students will use the video “370 dance videos combined into one striking solo” as a take off point to respond to dance, identify movement and transition ideas, research a specific person in Western modern dance history, and use the video as a template to create a video dance virtually - either alone or with others.

Enduring Understanding - Choreographers use many inspirations for dances. We are connected through space and time.

Essential Question - How can we create connection? How does a performer recreate the essence of a gesture? How does a choreographer use crowd sourcing as inspiration?

MN Standards Respond/Connect/Create

Process / Steps

Step 1 (Respond Standard)

Watch video - *370 videos combined into one striking solo* – “Parts to a Sum, 370” at least four times: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cSAln34ame4>

Answer the following reflection questions:

- What stood out to you?
- Identify movement qualities.

Mark Haim asks this question - “How do I embody in my work that feeling of holding people dear to me? And how do I transmit that feeling in a piece, so people can also think for themselves who do they hold dearly...” This is an assemblage technique (how the choreography was ordered) and crowdsourcing (finding movement from others). What other ways can choreographers play this assemblage device? How can you crowdsource?

Respond to these questions.



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Step 2 (Create/Perform standard)

Who is dear to you? Use this prompt from Mark Haim. Ask people to give you 5-10 seconds of movement with good intentions. (If possible, you can do it live, with people in your household. You can expand to asking people in your class or further afield.)

Learn these 5-10 second moments.

Mark Haim's question - "How does one learn the nuance of a person, a moment in time, ...the essence of a gesture?"

How are you working on finding "the essence of a gesture"? How does this relate to learning choreography in class or rehearsal?

Write a reflection.

Step 3 (Connect Standard)

Research Mark Haim.

Who is he? Where did he study? Where is he based?

What is his work about? (Find an artist statement by the choreographer for this)

Cite your sources.

Step 4 (Respond and Connect Standards)

Find a video of another work by Mark Haim.

Complete a reflection sheet for each dance.

Step 5 (Connect)

Read a review of a performance of Mark Haim.

What stood out to you in the reviews?

What is the work about?

What do the critics say?

Step 6 (Create and Connect)

Go back to Step 2. Who are your people? What are their movements? How do you want to order the dance?

Draw or create a visual chart to represent the people you want to represent in your solo. Mark Haim decided oldest to youngest. Explore multiple orders.

Document the orders by drawing/writing/video.

Make the order and rehearse it.



Step 7 (Create and Connect)

Create your own “Parts of a Sum 370” video to share with the class.

Watch this video to see how the dance filmmaker discusses his process:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ODEM8pjPW4&t=22s>

Think about your process.

- How would you describe it to an interviewer?
- How did you decide on your theme?
- How did you collect your sources?
- How did you practice?
- How will I upload? Edit?
- What does artistic success look like in this video?
- What is my theme?

Step 8 (Create)

Share with another group and teacher online. Use the chat function for feedback. All students must write one response on another video.

Step 9

Incorporate feedback. Draft a statement regarding feedback use.

Step 10

Revise. Draft artist statement. Share.

Reflection Questions for Step 4

- *What did you notice?*
- *Briefly describe the dance - how many dancers, where was it performed, what were they wearing? What was the sound? What were the design elements?*
- *Describe the movement and choreographic ideas.*
- *What did it remind you of?*

Assessment Criteria:

Complete responses

Use of dance language

Accurate research on choreographer



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Innovative ideas for video dance
Draft of dance using “Parts of a Sum” crowdsourcing
Respectful feedback for other dances
Justification for use or non-use of feedback.
Revision
Artist statement

*Draft Plan by Mary Harding
Perpich Center for Arts Education
Dance Education Specialist
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Please contact Mary Harding at Mary.harding@pcae.k12.mn.us with questions.