"There Will Be"

Senior Honors Thesis
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"There Will Be" is a suite of dances that tells a story involving human relationships. The side of human relationships the composition tries to depict is separation. Many times throughout life, for a variety of reasons, we are forced to separate from those who have shared in our lives. Whatever the reasons, separation can be a very painful experience. We may feel lost or confused, and memories of the past may even come back to "haunt" us and cause conflict within ourselves. The task that lies before us is not to completely forget these memories, but to untangle the strings that keep us longing for the past to return. Then we can set our sights on the new relationships which lie ahead, realizing they may hold just as much for us as those we left behind.
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Sequence of Dances:

"The Group" .................................. Music by John Williams
"The Love" .................................... Music by Michel Legrand
"The Inner Conflict" .......................... Music by John Williams
"The Promise" .................................. Music by Michel Legrand
                                            Poem by Cathy Sutton
Explaination of Individual Dance Themes

"The Group"

This dance depicts the type of relationship between a group of friends. Many times this type of relationship is referred to as a "click" or "the gang". We all have a certain group with which we feel comfortable, and that's why I have included it as one of my more recognized human relationships with which we must face separation sometimes during our lives.

"The Love"

This dance depicts the more intimate relationships of our lives. Even though intimate relationships may be extended to family and very close friends, I have chosen the intimate love between a man and a woman for this dance, because I feel it is the extreme example of intimate love. This dance develops the overall theme by exemplifying the fact that intimate love is another major type of human relationship with which we all face separation.

"The Inner Conflict"

This dance is very abstract in the fact it tries to exemplify the torment we feel inside when we are forced to separate from relationships such as those depicted in the first two dances. The dance tries to show an intense struggle with self in trying to escape a longing for relationships left behind to return.

"The Promise"

This dance exemplifies hope toward the future. After we have
made it through the torment of separation, we must realize that relationships of the future may be just as fulfilling as those of the past. Therefore, this dance shows a turning point from looking back toward the relationships of the past to looking ahead toward the relationships yet to come.
"The Group"

There are five people in the first dance and they are placed in an unaligned 2-1-2 pattern. The starting pose is in a plié with the legs asymmetrical and the arms in a downward V. One at a time, the dancers bring the back leg up to clasp the foot with the hand. In the same order each dancer lowers the leg and ends in a backward lean. All dancers then rock two times and go into a plié. Two of the dancers do a series of asymmetrical movements and turns and end up facing the rest of the group at a forward angle. The other three dancers repeat the same series of movements on the opposite side to end up facing the other two. All dancers then pass through fifth to end up in a sideward lean with the two groups still being opposite. The first two dancers along with one of the other three do a back hitchklick, one and a half turns, and then go to the left front of the stage area with fast walks and turns. They end in releve and arms slowly come up. The other two dancers repeat the series of movements and end up in the same area of the stage so as to form two lines. First three dancers do a quarter turn circling the arms; other two dancers follow. First four dancers now plié, step back into a sideward lean, and then do three turns so as to end up in a straight line in a leaning position with the arms pushing forward. Last dancer does the same sequence and ends up at the end of the line. First four dancers do a full turn and last dancer follows. All dancers now do a series of movements together: deep lunge, push-up, flip over, turn forward to sit, side roll toward back of stage, and come up to knees. Dancers get up two at a time and do a series of turns and hops offstage while dancers on the floor continue to
do hip thrusts and sits. When the last dancer gets up, she turns and does a backward lean, bringing the arms slowly up.
"The Love"

The first forty-eight counts of the dance is a series of turns, runs, falls, and leaps. The dancer performing this is the one left out on stage at the end of the last dance. The dancer should cover the entire stage area with reaches at every corner. At the end of the series, the dancer runs diagonally across the stage to meet her partner at the front right corner of the stage.

The couple backs onto the stage, then turns and continues to walk across the stage making a full turn on every other step. The couple comes together, girl in front, and does a swaying movement with the arms moving out and in. They turn to face each other and plié in an attitude position. Their legs come forward and back and they lower themselves to the ground. They gesture with their hands, forward and back, and then stand. They both turn into a back to back lift. The girl is lowered and they turn in different directions. The girl goes to the left front corner and ends in a sit, the guy follows and does an arabesque over her. They both stand and the guy pulls the girl into his arms. She turns out and does a series of hops and turns toward the right front corner; guy follows with a similar series. They back up together, stepping forward with a rocking motion every two steps. The girl pushes away, runs, turns, and poses. The guy turns and follows her. They plié together, and then he takes her hand and pulls her to the center of the stage. They bring their arms together and away twice then turn away several times. The dancers run into a high lift the guy lowers the girl into a wrap around him while they turn. He
puts her down and kneels while she turns and leans over him. He lifts her onto his arms and she wraps her arms around him. He puts her down and she turns to help him up. He then makes a threatening move over her. They pull away from each other, and she turns back to gesture for him, but he pushes her away. She falls to the floor, turns and reaches for him as he walks away.
"The Inner Conflict"

The dancer left on the stage rises and makes a gesture of agony. The other five dancers enter one at a time with their elastic bands wrapped around them and the ends of the bands held in front of the dancers. They are dressed in black. They place themselves on the outer extremities of the stage making threatening gestures with their movements. The center dancer responds to their presence, and with her movements gives a feeling of looking for a way out. The dancers in black gradually focus inward and form a circle around the single girl who continues to make gestures of trying to get out. The dancers in black begin to make strange shapes using their elastic bands. One at a time they take their elastic bands and throw it over their prey. When the bands are all on, a ferocious struggle between prey and captors takes place. Suddenly the dancers in black let go, turn, and back off the stage. The dancer left slowly untangles herself from the bands, and walks to the left front corner of the stage and takes a pose exemplifying relief.
"The Promise"

The dancer is in the ending pose of the previous dance. Her arm comes up and her head is lifted. She steps backwards onto relevé twice with the arms and other leg extending. She makes a gesture upwards toward the front right corner, then steps back and turns into a deep side reach. She turns into a sit, then spiral turns the opposite direction to a stand. Moving toward the rear left corner, she steps back on relevé with a reaching motion of the arms twice. She runs and leaps toward the front, then does a cradling motion to both the right and the left. Her arms and legs then pull inward, and she steps quickly backwards to move into a twisting motion of her upper body with the arms ending up. She presses down with her arms as she leans back and then she turns toward the back and reaches forward with her hand. Turning toward the front, she makes a motion of pulling something off of herself with her hands. Arms remaining open, she steps back, then toward the right front diagonal and slowly rises to relevé with the arms coming up. To end she melts slightly into a pose that keeps the up-lifted feeling.
Ending Poem

"There Will Be"

There will be other times and places,
New experiences and different faces.
There are roads we've yet to travel,
And bells that've yet to chime.
There are hearts we've yet to touch,
And hills we've yet to climb.
There are dreams we've always had,
But never tried to seek.
And the mountain's always been there,
But we've yet to see it's peak.
There will be time for all these things,
We've only to look ahead.
We've only to untangle with the past,
Now that yesterday is dead.

Cathy Sutton
"The Group" - "End Title" (Theme From "Jaws"), composed by John Williams
"The Love" - "Night", composed by Michel Legrand
"The Inner Conflict" - "Hand to Hand Combat", composed by John Williams
"The Promise" - "Morning Stillness", composed by Michel Legrand
References
