

Carley Schmitt—Sample Choreography Idea

Choreography Studio: ABC Dance Project

Advanced Ballet Ages 15+

Music Choice #1: Sweet Dreams Are Made of This (Sweet Dreams)

- Condensed Intent:
 - to show the pitfalls of being a performer
- Music Choice Information: Sweet Dreams Are Made of This by The Hampton String Quartet
 - Time:
 - 2:31
 - Beginnings and Endings
 - Dancers enter the stage during a blackout and hit poses around the stage. On the first note the lights flash to show them in a pose and then it goes dark again. The second note, the lights flash to show them in a different pose and then it goes black. Then the lights come up with the music and all of the dancers start dancing.
 - Dancers hit the final pose on the last note. They exit the stage during the black out.
- Describe how each music choice is age and level appropriate with regards to:
 - Tempo:
 - It is a quicker tempo and it changes to become syncopated in certain parts but then it returns to the original tempo. There is also a small break at the last cut in the music before the downbeat kicks in again. Ideally it would flow from the last note of “looking for something” into the catch before the downbeat instead of being a rough cut. This music would challenge the dancers to count and be aware of the tempo changes but it is proba-

bly a song that they are somewhat familiar with. I believe that advanced 15+ year olds would be able to handle music like this.

- Strong or Weak Downbeat:
 - There is a strong downbeat that drops out sometimes but you can still count that downbeat even if it is weaker for a section of the music.
- Lyrics and Insinuations:
 - This is an instrumental version of the song but some of my intent is influenced by the lyrics so I attached them on the next page. The lyrics insinuate that everybody is using each other for personal gain. There is a large use of irony in this song though its discussion of the “sweet dream” that everyone seems to want and the reality of what that dream actually looks like.
- Tone and Feel:
 - There is an eerie and sinister tone to this number. As advanced teenagers, they are now at an age where they can convey darker themes through their movement and performance quality.
- Logical beginning with a build and a logical ending:
 - In the beginning, the dancers are scattered around the stage in various poses and when the music starts they all start dancing the same choreography facing different directions. This will show how individualistic performers’ minds can be.
 - As the music builds, the dancers will slowly start to dance together facing the audience, starting with 2 or 3 people and adding on until every one is together.

- In the end, there will be a small partner section and then the dancers will be “fighting” for the spot light. They won’t be actually fighting, but it will show through their movement that they are each desperate to be center stage. At the end, only one dancers will be center stage in the spot light and everyone else will be lying on the floor to symbolize that she had to push them all down to get to way she is.
- Repeatable Chorus—if applicable:
 - There is a repeat in the music but I will not be repeating choreography.
- Expand on each Condensed Intent with regards to the following:
 - Describe how the chosen Intent and Music Choice supports the gender and number of students in the class:
 - This intent requires a large group of dancers to get the message across. Everyone in the class, regardless of gender, will be able to relate to the feelings of desperation, hopelessness, and rejection. At this age, they’ve experienced many of these things and are ready to express these feelings on a stage.
 - Describe how the chosen Intent and Music Choice supports the chosen theme of the showcase as well as the placement of the dance within the themed Act:
 - This dance is the closing number in the first Act. It supports the theme of Story Books by telling the story of several different performers trying to succeed. This intent is great for being the last number of the first act because it has a large climax which is important to showcase in the middle of the show.
 - Include any prop ideas for the chosen Intent and Music Choice, if applicable:
 - I don’t have any prop ideas for this piece.

- Include at least 1 costume idea, for both genders, if applicable, and describe how each compliments the chosen Intent and Music Choice:
 - The girls would be in Gravitate (RC18529) Costume from Revolution Dance. It is a holographic leotard with a mesh overlay and an asymmetrical skirt. They would also wear the headpiece that come with it. Their self-supplied items would be pink tights and pink ballet shoes or pointe shoes if they are on pointe.
 - The boys will be self supplying their black pants/tights, black ballet shoes, and black long sleeve button up shirt. They should have all of these items from previous years.
 - These all black costumes will compliment the dark themes of the intent and music.
- Include technical lighting ideas:
 - In the beginning, I want the stage to be completely dark and the lights flash quickly on the two beats. Once the music starts, I would want the lights to be on and have them grow or pulse at every note that resembles those first two beats. After that intro, the lights can be all the way up and there can be cool tones on the cyc. Some colors I have in mind are grey, blue, and purple. At the end, I want there to be a spotlight on center stage to light the last dancer standing.
 - For the gobos, I would want something similar to Irregular Breakup Small (B117G) or Linear Mess (B205G) to showcase the chaotic element of the piece.