

## Clip: Men in Dance

### Episode 5: Real Men Don't Dance

#### Activity: Males Who Dance

#### Themes: Dance Knowledge

The title of this episode articulates a commonly held view that 'real men' from Western cultures don't dance as it is considered a female-centric profession. But in fact, if we consider a more realistic whole-world perspective, inclusive of family occasions, festivals and celebrations, where men are required to dance – at clubs, on the streets, in the community and professionally. In various cultures it is an expectation that men will dance, they learn from an early age and dance well. Dance is an expression of their identity and their heritage.

1. As a class, view the clip, *Men in Dance*. Have students discuss and list male dance groups and the dance styles they would expect men to perform in (for instance, Indigenous dance forms, Tap Dogs, Hip Hop crews, Indian classical dance, Zorba, ballroom and social dance).
2. Dance provides boys and men with certain physical advantages. As a group, have students identify these advantages by completing the crossword puzzle in **Student Activity Sheet E5.1: Males Who Dance Crossword**.
3. Ask students to research prominent Australian male identities in Dance.
4. Each student should select one male dance artist to investigate and produce a poster presentation about the dancer. The poster should list the dancer's career highlights and dance style that he made famous.
5. Display the posters around the room, arranged in chronological order for when the dancer's career was highlighted. Initiate a discussion about the roles of male dancers today.

## Download

- Student Activity Sheet E5.1 : Males Who Dance Crossword

## Useful resources

- [The Australian Ballet: leading male dancers](#)
- [The Australian Ballet: Ballet Men](#)



NAME: .....

Student Activity Sheet: E5.1 Episode: Real Men Don't Dance

Activity: Males Who Dance Clip: Men in Dance.

## Males Who Dance Crossword

On the following page, develop a crossword using some of the following names and clues (answers in brackets).

Make up some of your own questions and answers about male dancers to include in the crossword.

Fred \_\_\_\_\_ Famous Hollywood tap dancer and movie star of the 1930s and 1940s (Astaire)

\_\_\_\_\_ Contemporary TV dance competition featuring a range of dance styles. (So You Think You Can Dance)

\_\_\_\_\_ Christopher Walken danced in the video clip of what Fat Boy Slim song? (Weapon of Choice)

\_\_\_\_\_ Warrior dance performed by Indigenous M ori prior to battle (Haka)

\_\_\_\_\_ Australian dancer famous for his performance in the original "The Boy from Oz" (Todd McKenney)

\_\_\_\_\_ Australian choreographer, director of Sydney Dance Company (1976 - 2007) (Graeme Murphy)

Paul \_\_\_\_\_ Australian dancer made famous to the general public through the film, "Strictly Ballroom" (Mercurio)

\_\_\_\_\_ Film star Hugh Jackman performed in what musical set in a USA state? (Oklahoma)

\_\_\_\_\_ Etienne Khoo is the name of an Australian dancer and choreographer in what popular style of dance? (Hip Hop)