

Takeover Day

By Angelina Sorokina

Takeover Day, held on 22 November at the South East Dance offices, Brighton, was a tremendously informative event. Various workshops and practical activities were aimed to present college and undergraduate dance students from Brighton with a chance to discover the variety of opportunities available at South East Dance and beyond.

At the Screen Dance workshop a partly historical angle was adopted. Below are some of the points which were discussed:

The medium of film – its effects and limitations on the live art of dance during the 19th century. The fluidity of dance appealed to the filmmakers of this era; theatrics in dance steadily developed during this time, as drama translated well on screen and compensated for the lacks of sound, fixed cameras and short film stock.

With the progression of time the landscape of dance and film flourished. The harmony between the camera and choreography resulted in beautifully elaborate productions. A greatly popularized film genre during the Golden Age of Hollywood was musical films, in which tremendous film choreography and orchestration often enhanced the films.

It is now easier to make and distribute films as filmmakers can showcase work to a readymade audience through the internet and social networking sites.

Further points of discussion which arose during the 'Screen Dance' seminar soon turned into a light debate about the inaccessibility of screen dance to those outside of the field of dance. Although it was agreed that screen dance also appeals to anyone who is interested in the dynamics of everyday life.

A significant amount was learned by all who were in attendance. The closing summary of Takeover Day included a straightforward and informative talk by Catharine Gill; in which she noted how the current changes and imbalances in higher education fees could dramatically impact the-not-so-distant-future of the dance world. She also spoke of her own journey through dance.

Overall the easygoing and open atmosphere during Takeover Day made it an enjoyable experience.