

Chronology of Choreographic Works by Alwin Nikolais

Title	Music	Premiere	Location	Commissioned By
Sabine Women Play by Leonid Andreyeff	Speaking chorus	12/15/36	Palace Theatre Hartford, CT	Connecticut WPA Federal Negro Theatre
World We Live In Play by Kapek Bros. "Insect Comedy"	Percussion	12/13/37	Avery Memorial Theatre Hartford, CT	Connecticut WPA Federal Negro Theatre
Eight Column Line	Ernst Krenek	5/19/39	Avery Memorial Theatre Hartford, CT	Wadsworth Atheneum & Friends or Enemies of Modern Music
Birthday of the Infanta Play by Oscar Wilde	Dance movement by A. Nikolais	5/27/39	Avery Memorial Theatre Hartford, CT	Ann Randall Productions
American Greetings	Louis Horst	1/19/40	Avery Memorial Theatre Hartford, CT	
The Jazzy 20's	Beatrice MacLoughlin	1/19/40	Avery Memorial Theatre Hartford, CT	
Opening Dance	Joaquin Turina	5/29/41	Hartt College Hartford, CT	
American Folk Themes	David Guion	5/29/41	Hartt College Hartford, CT	
Pavanne	Esther Williamson	5/29/41	Hartt College Hartford, CT	
Evocation	Wallingford Reigger	5/29/41	Hartt College Hartford, CT	
Ten Maidens and No Man Comic Opera in One Act by Franz Von Suppe	Dance Direction by Alwin Nikolais	5/13/42	Hartt College, Hartford, CT	
Character Sketches In the suite titled <i>War Themes</i>	Sergei Prokofiev	5/15/42	Avery Memorial Theatre Hartford, CT	
Metamorphosis	Osbourne	5/15/42	Avery Memorial Theatre Hartford, CT	

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Popular Themes Choreographed with Olga Dzurich	George Gershwin	5/15/42	Avery Memorial Theatre Hartford, CT	
Martha Opera by Friedrich Von Flotow	Dance direction by A. Nikolais	5/6/45	Hartt College Hartford, CT	Hartt Opera Guild
Fable of the Donkey (Children's Theatre)	Freda Miller; Script: Lillian de la Torre	8/17/46	Fine Arts Center Colorado Springs	
Barber of Seville (Opera)	Giovanni Paisiello	2/17/47	Hartt College Hartford, CT	
Romeo and Juliet (Opera)	Opera by Charles F. Gounod	2/18/48	Hartt College Hartford, CT	
The Princess & the Vagabond (Folk opera in four scenes)	Isadore Freed	5/13/48	Hartt College Hartford, CT	
Dramatic Etude	Marshall Bialosky	8/13/48	Fine Arts Center Colorado Springs	
Extrados	Alfred Pew (pseudonym for Alfred Brooks)	5/26/49	Henry Street Playhouse New York City	
The Lobster Quadrille (from "Alice Through the Looking Glass")	Freda Miller	11/19/49	Museum of Natural History New York City	NY Times 3rd Annual Boys & Girls Book Fair
Shepherdess & the Chimney Sweep (from Anderson)	No music credit; Script: Dorothy McFadden	12/16/49	Henry Street Playhouse New York City	
Dance Suite (Also "Opening Suite")	Malcolm Waldren	3/18/50	The Brooklyn Museum New York City	
Star Beam Journey Script: Alwin Nikolais and Murray Louis	Improvised	12/27/50	Henry Street Playhouse New York City	
Sokar and the Crocodile Script: Alwin Nikolais and Murray Louis	Freda Miller	12/28/50	Henry Street Playhouse New York City	
Heritage of Cain	Eugene Nicolait	4/30/51	Henry Street Playhouse	
Invulnerables	Rex Wilder	5/2/51	Brooklyn Museum New York City	
The Committee	Sergei Prokofiev	5/25/51	Henry Street Playhouse New York City	

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The Vortex A movement drama with timing and dramatic growth improvised	Recordings	5/25/51	Henry Street Playhouse New York City	
Romeo & Juliet (Opera) Directed by E. Nagy	Charles Francois Gounod	6/30/51	Central City Opera House Central City, CO	
New England Suite	Douglas Moore	11/9/51	The Cooper Union, Advancement of Science and Art, New York City	
Aqueouscape Integrated into concerts titled Etudes II: Masks, Props and Mobiles, 1/26/53, and Masks-Props-Mobiles, 12/10/55	Jean Sibelius	11/9/51	The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York City	
Noumenon Retitled Noumenom Mobilis and integrated into the concerts titled Etudes II: Masks, Props and Mobiles, 1/26/53, and Masks-Props-Mobiles, 12/10/55	Percussion	11/9/51	The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York City	
Theme and Improvisation Retitled Theme and Improvised Variation and integrated into the concert titled EtudesII: Masks, Props and Mobiles, 1/26/53	Freda Miller	11/9/51	The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art, New York City	
Indian Sun From an American Indian legend	Percussion and piano	2/16/52	Woodmere High School Woodmere, NY	
Merry-Go-Elsewhere The Story of a Merry-Go-Round	Music credited to Freda Miller	12/28/52	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Forest of Three A Fairy Tale with One Character	Percussion	5/23/53	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Kaleidoscope This short group work for nine dancers differs from the 1956 work of the same title.	Percussion	5/27/53	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	

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Farm Journal	Douglas Moore	7/18/53	Sturbridge Village Theater Sturbridge, MA	Sturbridge Village Theater
The Devil and Daniel Webster A Music Play	Douglas Moore; Script: Stephen Vincent Benet	7/18/53	Sturbridge Village Theater Sturbridge, MA	
St. George and the Dragon	Freda Miller	1/1/54	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Legend of the Winds	Trumpet improvisations by Don Ferrara	12/22/54	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Web Premiered on the concert titled Village of Whispers, integrated into the concert Masks-Props-Mobiles (12/10/55), and later reworked as a full company dance titled Tensile Involvement	Percussion	2/13/55	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Tournament Premiered on the concert titled Village of Whispers, and integrated into the concert titled Masks-Props-Mobiles (12/10/55)	Carlos Chavez	2/13/55	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
A Christmas Mime	Percussion	12/17/55	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Three Kings	Percussion	12/17/55	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Battle	Carlos Chavez	12/17/55	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Kaleidoscope Untitled at this time, sections of the work follows exactly the dance presented 8/17/56 at Connecticut College American Dance Festival, New London, Ct.	George Anthei, Carlos Chavez, Alan Hovhaness, Edgard Varese, Heitor Villa Lobos, ethnic sources, and Playhouse Percussion Group.	5/25/56	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	

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Prism	Percussion recordings by the Playhouse Percussion Group, ethnic sources, Alan Hovhaness, George Antheil	12/27/56	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
The Bewitched – A Dance Satire	Harry Partch	3/26/57	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Illinois	Fromm Foundation, University of IL. School of Music, and the Dance Division of the Department of Physical Education for Women
Runic Canto	Arranged by Alwin Nikolais, assisted by David Berlin and Margaret Dietz, from “Music Concrete” sources and original recordings	8/16/57	Connecticut College American Dance Festival New London CT	Connecticut College for the Tenth American Dance Festival
New Dances Also known as Cantos	Playhouse Percussion Group, Eddie Sauter, Bill Finnegan, Pierre Henry, Pierre Schaeffer, Michael Phillipot, Daniel Pinkham, Henry Brandt	12/27/57	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Mirrors An improvised dance fantasy designed and directed by Alwin Nikolais	Alwin Nikolais	5/16/58	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Lythic	Alwin Nikolais	12/27/59	Henry Street Playhouse	
Prism	Alwin Nikolais	12/27/59	Henry Street Playhouse	
Allegory	Alwin Nikolais assisted by Robert Mason	1/30/59	Henry Street Playhouse	

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Finials (from Allegory)	Alwin Nikolais	1/30/59	Henry Street Playhouse	
Kites		5/31/59	The Steve Allen Show, NBC-TV	
Pavanne		9/28/59	The Steve Allen Show, NBC-TV	
Ritual		10/19/59	The Steve Allen Show, NBC-TV	
Seascape		12/28/59	The Steve Allen Show, NBC-TV	
Totem	Alwin Nikolais	1/29/60	Henry Street Playhouse	
Paddles		3/21/60	The Steve Allen Show, NBC-TV	
Eight Compositions of Abstract Dance	Alwin Nikolais	11/30/60	Caspary Auditorium, New York City	Contemporary Music Society Concert
Stratus	Alwin Nikolais	1/27/61	Henry Street Playhouse	
Nimbus	Alwin Nikolais	1/27/61	Henry Street Playhouse	
L'enfant de la Lune	Hovannes	4/29/61	Henry St. Playhouse	
Creation	Alwin Nikolais (Some sounds were created on a new electronically controlled piano by Dr. Richard Evans of Salt Lake City, Utah)	8/5/61	Comedia Canadienne, Montreal, Canada	
Illusions	Alwin Nikolais	8/7/61	Comedia Canadienne, Montreal, Canada	Twenty-Sixth annual season of the Montreal Music and Drama Festival
Divertissement This was the first time Divertissement appeared in a program. Over the years Nikolais used this title to present a variety of short dances selected from his entire repertory		7/7/62	Teatro Nuovo Spoleto, Italy	
Peacock	Alwin Nikolais	7/23/62	Teatro Caio Melisso, Spoleto, Italy	

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Imago (The City Curious)	Alwin Nikolais and James Seawright. Sounds on RCA synthesizer of Columbia-Princeton Electronic Music Center, NYC	2/24/63	Hartford Jewish Community Center, Hartford, CT	Ann Randall Memorial Event
Sanctum	Alwin Nikolais; sounds produced at Columbia-Princeton Music Center, NYC	2/20/64	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	John Simon Guggenheim Foundation
Galaxy	Alwin Nikolais; some sounds in electronic scores produced at Columbia-Princeton Music Center.	3/19/65	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	John Simon Guggenheim Foundation
Vaudeville of Elements	Alwin Nikolais; Portions of electronic scores produced at Columbia-Princeton Music Center	12/10/65	Tyrone Guthrie Theatre Minneapolis	Walker Art Center
Girls Trio (From Vaudeville of Elements)	Alwin Nikolais	12/10/65	Tyrone Guthrie Theatre Minneapolis	Walker Art Center
Tower (Third act from Vaudeville of Elements)	Alwin Nikolais	7/5/68	Theater Auditorium, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL	
Somniloquy	Alwin Nikolais	2/9/67	Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York City	Contemporary Music Society
Fusion (Film in collaboration with Edmund Emschwiller)	Alwin Nikolais	3/28/67	Hilton Hotel, New York City	Spring Mills, Inc.
Premiere (A multi-media event)	Alwin Nikolais	3/28/67	George Abbot Theatre, New York City	Spring Mills, Inc.

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Triptych	Alwin Nikolais	11/30/67	Henry Street Playhouse, New York City	
Tent	Alwin Nikolais	7/5/68	Theater Auditorium University of South Florida, Tampa, FL	University of South Florida
Limbo (An electronic experiment created for television)	Alwin Nikolais	7/20/68	CBS, New York City	CBS, New York City
Help, Help The Globolinks (Opera for children)	Music and libretto: Gian-Carlo Menotti	12/21/68	Hamburg Opera, Hamburg, Germany	Hamburgischen Staatsoper
Echo	Alwin Nikolais	12/3/69	City Center Theatre, New York City	Made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts
Structures	Alwin Nikolais	4/29/70	City Center Theatre, New York City	Chimera Foundation for Dance
Scenario	Alwin Nikolais	2/25/71	Anta Theater, New York City	Made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts
Relay (TV)	Alwin Nikolais with Moog synthesizer	6/71	BBC London	BBC London; co-production with National Educational Television
Foreplay	Alwin Nikolais	1/22/72	Brooklyn Academy of Music Opera House, New York City	Rehearsal period funded by the New York State Council on the Arts
Chrysalis (film with E.Emschwiller)	Ed Emschwiller	3/9/72	Buffalo, New York	
Divertissement (Allegory, Sanctum, Masks, Props & Mobiles)	Arranged	2/8/74	Lyceum Theatre	
Grotto	Alwin Nikolais and James Burton	2/17/73	Brooklyn Academy of Music Opera House, New York City	Made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts
Kyldex I	Pierre Henry	2/9/73	Hamburg Opera House, Hamburg Germany	Hamburgischen Staatsoper
Cross-fade	Alwin Nikolais	2/5/74	Lyceum Theatre New York City	Made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

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Scrolls	Alwin Nikolais	2/2/74	Middletown High School, Middletown, NY	Funded by the Greater Middletown Arts Council, Inc.
Temple	Alwin Nikolais	9/20/74	Teatro Zarzuela Madrid, Spain	Rockefeller Foundation
Tribe	Alwin Nikolais	5/3/75	Teatro Colon Buenos Aires, Argentina	Made possible with a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts
Styx	Alwin Nikolais	8/3/76	Beacon Theatre, New York City	National Endowment for the Arts
Triad	Alwin Nikolais	8/4/76	Beacon Theatre, New York City	National Endowment for the Arts
Guignol (Dummy Dances)	Improvised by the Paul Winter Consort with electronic sounds by Alwin Nikolais	2/9/77	Beacon Theatre, New York City	National Endowment for the Arts
Arporisms	Alwin Nikolais and improvisations by the Paul Winter consort (dance #7)	2/11/77	Beacon Theatre, New York City	Madeleine Lejwa & Contemporary Music Society of New York
Gallery	Alwin Nikolais	4/19/78	Beacon Theatre, New York City	National Endowment for the Arts
Castings	Alwin Nikolais	4/20/78	Beacon Theatre New York City	
Aviary "A Ceremony for Bird People"	Daniel Harris, Les Thimmig & A Nikolais	12/7/78	Union Theatre University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI	University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Foundation for the Arts, Wisconsin Arts Board and the Evjue Foundation
Countdown	Alwin Nikolais	5/7/79	Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico City	George Soros and partial funding by the National Endowment for the Arts and New York State Council on the Arts
Mechanical Organ	Improvised by David Darling Ensemble under Alwin Nikolais' direction	6/4/80	Gaillard Municipal Auditorium, Spoleto Festival Charleston, South Carolina	George Soros, with partial funding by the National Endowment for the Arts and New York State Council on the Arts

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Schema	Improvised by David Darling Ensemble under direction of Nikolais and Darling	12/18/80	Palais Garnier, Paris, France	Paris Opera
Five Masks (a suite of five dances from Schema)	Improvised by David Darling Ensemble under direction of Nikolais and Darling	2/12/81	City Center Theater, New York City	
Talisman	Improvised by David Darling Ensemble under direction of Nikolais and Darling	2/12/81	City Center Theater, New York City	New York State Council on the Arts
Pond	Alwin Nikolais	5/18/82	Grand Auditorio Gulbenkian, Lisbon, Portugal	National Endowment for the Arts
Mechanical Organ II	Electronic scores by Alwin Nikolais; additional music improvised by David Darling Ensemble	6/22/82	Theatre de la Ville In the Theatre de Paris, Paris, France	George Soros with partial funding from the National Endowment for the Arts
Liturgies	Alwin Nikolais	3/29/83	Theatro Municipal Caracas, Venezuela	Venezuelan National Cultural Council for the Simon Bolivar Bicentennial
Lenny and the Heartbreakers	Scott Killian (orchestrations)	12/22/83	Public Theater, New York City	Joseph Papp Public Theater/ New York Shakespeare Festival
Persons & Structures	Edgar Varese (poem electronique)	2/16/84	City Center Theater, New York City	Electronic Music Center, Columbia University, part of the School of the Arts' "A Varese Celebration"
Video Game	David Gregory	4/16/84	Olympics Arts Festival Pasadena, CA	Olympics Arts Festival, LAOOC
Graph	David Gregory	7/18/84	American Dance Festival, Durham, NC	Golden Commission by the American Dance Festival

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Illusive Visions	Alwin Nikolais	3/2/85	Wacoal Art Center Tokyo, Japan	Wacoal Art Center Tokyo, Japan
Crucible	Alwin Nikolais	6/13/85	American Dance Festival, Durham, NC	American Dance Festival
L'Homme Oiseau	Alwin Nikolais	7/85	Aix en Provence, France	Aix en Provence Festival
Contact	Alwin Nikolais	7/8/85	Pavillion Vendome, Aix en Provence, France	La Danse a Aix & Le Festival des Nuits de l'EstereI
Velocities	Alwin Nikolais	12/22/86	The Joyce Theater, New York City	National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, and the Andrew W. Mellon Fund
Arc en Ciel	Alwin Nikolais	5/29/87	Paris Opera House, Paris, France	Paris Opera
Eruptions and Entanglements	Alwin Nikolais	12/15/87	The Joyce Theater, New York City	
Blank on Blank	Alwin Nikolais	12/23/87	The Joyce Theater, New York City	
Zones One-Two- Etcetera	Alwin Nikolais	6/1/88	Midland Center for the Arts, Midland, MI	Matrix Midland Festival
Oracles	Alwin Nikolais	7/20/89	Herod Atticus Theater, Athens, Greece	Surdna Foundation and the Athens Festival
Intrados	Alwin Nikolais	10/25/89	Joyce Theatre New York City	National Endowment for the Arts and NYS Council of the Arts
Segue	Alwin Nikolais	10/29/89	Joyce Theatre New York City	Surdna Foundation
The Crystal and the Sphere	Alwin Nikolais	4/3/90	Terrace Theater, (Kennedy Center, Washington DC)	Kennedy Center for its community outreach program 'Imagination Celebration'
Hollow Lady	Alwin Nikolais	4/24/91	The Joyce Theater, New York City	New York State Council on the Arts for dancer Nina Watt
Aurora	John Scoville	1/28/92	Joyce Theatre New York City	National Endowment for the Arts and Harkness Foundation for Dance