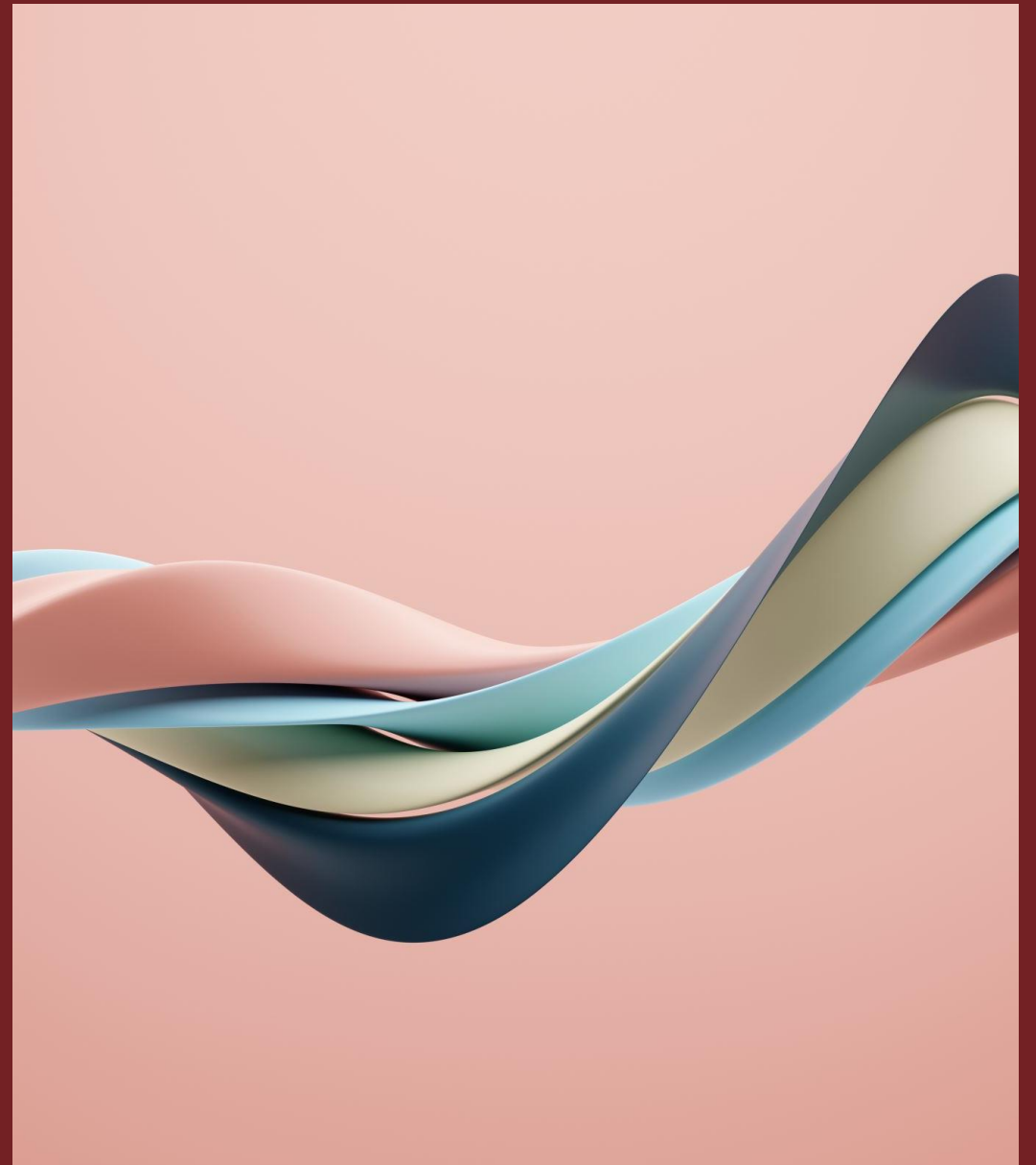


A DIVE INTO DANCE AFRICA



By: Sheyann Murdock



DOCUMENTARY PREVIEW



WHAT IS DANCE AFRICA?



- Brooklyn Academy of Music's (BAM's) longest running program founded by Chuck Davis
- America's largest celebration of African dance, music, and culture
- Held in major cities such as: New York City, Washington D.C., and Chicago



TECHNICAL ASPECT:

Using the software Avid Media Composer, I was able to make a short documentary showcasing the past, present, and future of Dance Africa, as well as some of the people involved with its curation.



WHY DID I CHOOSE
TO DO A
DOCUMENTARY ON
DANCE AFRICA?

As a previous BAM Intern, Dance Africa was something I was able to witness firsthand...

As exciting as it was to watch, this project seemed like a great reason to dig into the curation of this event

CALENDAR

Weeks 1-3	1/26 - 2/09	Set up archive meetings + work on poster draft
Weeks 4-7	2/16 - 3/09	Transcode + sort through video/audio files
Weeks 8-11	3/16 - 4/20	Create visual storyboard + schedule and do interviews
Weeks 12-14	4/27 - 5/11	Editing + refining footage

NEEDED ITEMS:

Phone gimbal

Cordless ring light

Over ear studio headphones

Phone mount



PROCESS

- Take trips to BAM's archive office to do extended research + get supporting footage for the completion of my documentary
- Determine potential interviews and a list of questions
- Develop script for narration
- Visual storyboard



DANCEAFRICA2001 BAM

Rhythms from the Circle of Life

Memorial Day Weekend
May 25—28

Dance
Music
Film
Bazaar



“SETBACK”

- Jamel Gaines (choreographer) interview
- More contemporary dance
- Mark Morris Dance Company



MARK MORRIS DANCE PRACTICE SNIPPET



WHAT WORKED AND WHAT DIDN'T

- Filming away from harsh light and mirrors helped. Since the dance studio had a lot of light, and the mirrors reflected it. That led to some oversaturated footage. Having more footage than needed can also combat this – if you have enough options to choose from.
- Always filming in landscape mode helps the documentary look more cohesive.



TAKEAWAYS

- Write down your ideas
- Have a sure enough idea of who you're going to interview
- Ensure that you schedule times in which you're both available
- Customize your questions to cater to their background
- Never be afraid to schedule twice if they're available
- Leave time for refining
- Always film more footage than needed

THANK

YOU!

