

Terri Best

Terri Best's career as a dancer, choreographer and teacher spans over three decades. She performed both locally and abroad as a principal dancer with the Los Angeles Jazz Dance Company throughout the 1980's, and also appeared in the Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers Christmas Special, the American Choreography Awards, and in numerous music videos and industrials. Her commercial choreography credits include the 15th Annual Golden Eagle Awards, Star Trek: Phase II, and McDonald's. Terri is Artistic Director of Terri Best Dance, recipient of the 2008 Lester Horton Award for Outstanding Achievement in Performance. They have performed to critical acclaim and enthusiastic audiences throughout Southern California, at venues including the historic Pasadena Civic Auditorium and the Luckman, Alex, Nate Holden, El Portal and McCallum Theatres. Described by the L.A. Times as "Thrilling, in your face...with a soaring sense of promise", Terri's choreography has been honored with a finalist award four times at the prestigious Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival in Palm Desert, California.

Terri is the honored recipient of the 2008 Stanley Holden Award for Distinguished Teaching, presented by Edward Villella at the 9th Annual L.A. Dance Invitational. She has been on faculty at EDGE Performing Arts Center in Hollywood since 1993, during which time she has trained and prepared hundreds dancers for professional careers. Her students can be seen dancing in film and on television, on Broadway and in dance companies around the world. She conducts master classes and workshops throughout the U.S. and abroad, including the International Summercourses at Balettakademien in Stockholm, workshops at the Performing Arts Studios in Munich and Estudio Profesional de Danza Ema Pulido in Mexico City, and at Peridance and Broadway Dance Center in New York City.

Class Description:

Terri Best's class incorporates elements of ballet, modern and Luigi jazz techniques, including turns, jumps, extensions, floor work, isolations and gestures. Emphasis is on movement motivation (moving from the inside out), musicality, shape and line, flow, attack and use of the breath. Dancers are encouraged to not merely imitate the movement, but to find within themselves an impetus for the honest physical expression of the passion, joy, or whatever emotion the music and choreography may suggest or inspire.

The learning environment is supportive and encouraging - never judgmental or competitive – which allows every student, whether they aspire to dance professionally or recreationally, to feel supported in taking the risks that will enable them to grow, and to become articulate, passionate and fearless movers.

Website: www.terribestdance.com

Instagram: @terribestdance