



# On Pointe



## Dance History Unit Studies

**George Balanchine** (1904-1983) was a choreographer who, with Lincoln Kirstin, founded both the New York City Ballet and the School of American Ballet.

Balanchine created a neoclassical style of ballet which rejected the overly dramatic approach of the Romantic period in favor of a clean, simple aesthetic which became synonymous with his name. Balanchine's style is characterized by rapid footwork and great musicality.

Among his ballet works are *Apollo*, *Jewels*, *Serenade*, *Symphony in C*, and the *Nutcracker*. Balanchine also choreographed for Broadway, where he was the first to use dance to advance the story line. Among his many works are: *Slaughter on Tenth Avenue* ballet in *On Your Toes*, *Babes in Arms*, and *Cabin in the Sky*.



Balanchine was married five times, always to ballerinas.

You can see an excerpt of *Slaughter on Tenth Avenue* here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqsvZ\\_M0uvM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqsvZ_M0uvM)

You can see part of *Jewels* here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=88CdG7ohozA>

