



# On Pointe



## Dance History Unit Studies

**Martha Graham** was modern dancer and choreographer. She has been called "the Picasso of modern dance" because of her enormous influence on the art form. The Graham technique of modern dance is still taught today.

Her work explored the human heart, resulting in *Lamentation*, *Appalachian Spring*, *Clytemnestra*, and many, many others.

She had a lifelong collaboration with the artist Noguchi.

*On Pointe, the CSD Dance History Unit Studies* is a regular feature of the Claire School of Dance curriculum, providing students and parents the context for the appreciation of dance in all its forms.



### Classroom Activities

- contract/release
- Free dance in a fabric tube
- *Ballet for Martha* (book)



*Lamentation*

*Martha Graham performs "Lamentation"*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I-lcFwPJUXQ>

*A clip from "Appalachian Spring":*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbJelkj5pUU>

(Listen for the theme from "Tis the gift.")

