



## CLASSICAL BALLET VOCABULARY

*A la Seconde - in second position*  
*A Terre - on the ground*  
*Adagio - at ease or leisure*  
*Allegro - brisk, lively*  
*Arabesque - with the leg behind*  
*Assemble - to assemble*  
*Attitude - a dance pose based on the statue of Mercury*  
*Battement - beating. A beating action of the extended or bent leg*  
*Battement Degage - to disengage*  
*Battement Frappe - to strike*  
*Battement Tendu - to stretch*  
*Chaine - chain links. A chain of turns*  
*Changement - to change, literally changing the feet in the air*  
*Chasse - to chase*  
*Cou-de-pied - the neck of the foot*  
*Coupe - to cut*  
*Croise - crossed or closed to the audience*  
*Demi position - half position*  
*Derriere - behind or back*  
*Devant - to the front*  
*Developpe - to develop*  
*En Croix - in the shape of the cross*  
*En Dedans - inward*  
*En Dehors - outward*  
*Efface - shaded. This position is open to the audience*  
*En l'air - in the air*  
*Epaulement - movement of the shoulders*  
*Ferme - closed*  
*Grand - big, large*  
*Grand Battement - large kick*  
*Glassade - to glide*  
*Jete - to throw*  
*Ouvert - open*  
*Pas de bouree - step of the bouree*  
*Petite - little, small*  
*Pique - to prick. Stepping onto the demi-point of the foot*  
*Pirouette - whirl or spin*  
*Plie - bent, bending. A bending of the knee or knees.*  
*Port de bras - movement of the arms*  
*Releve - to rise, can be done in any position*  
*Rond de jambe - around the leg*  
*Sauté - jumped, jumping*  
*Sous-sou - over, under*  
*Soutenu - sustained*  
*Spotting - the movement of the head during pirouettes*  
*Temps leve - time raised. A hop on one foot*  
*Temps lie - connecting step*

