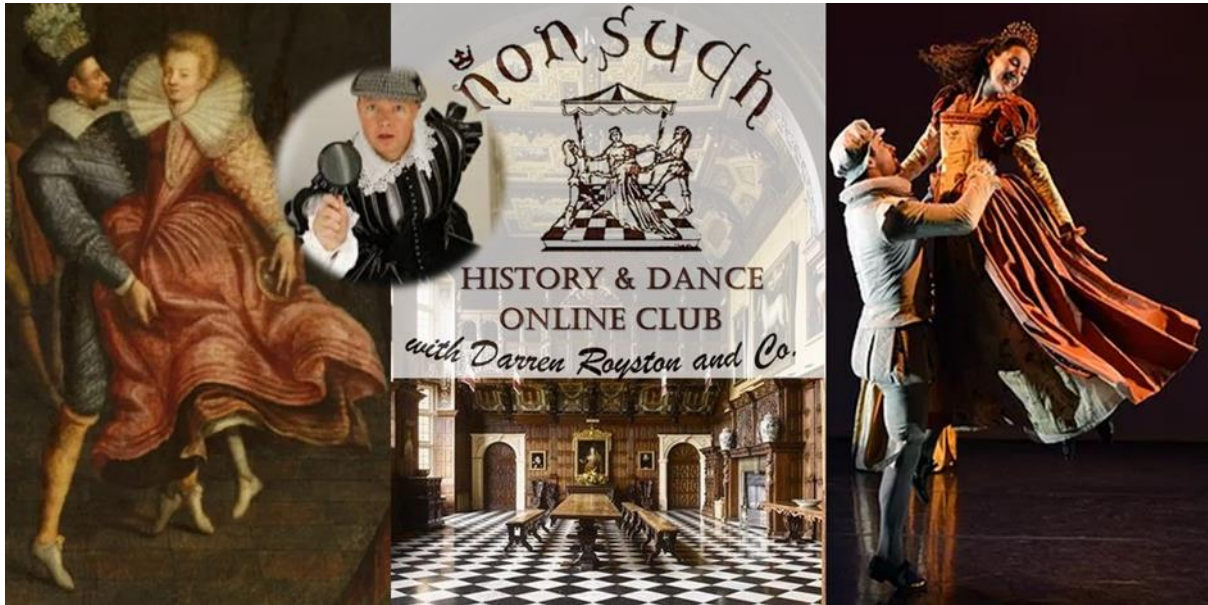


Nonsuch History & Dance – Online Club



From Fall to Spring: six months for studying six centuries of dance!

Starting in October 2020!

Join **Darren Royston**, celebrated choreographer and teacher, for online sessions exploring historical dances from medieval periods to the nineteenth century.

Darren, together with guest teachers, artists, specialists, and friends, will recreate historical dance using music, paintings, costumes, history and drama from different periods.

From **Fall to Spring** will move through historical periods and learn the early dance essentials based on latest research and the Nonsuch repertoire, as published in Peggy Dixon's "Dances from the Courts of Europe" and Darren Royston's "Dramatic Dance."

HOW THE ONLINE SESSIONS WORK

Two hours dance classes including physical warm-ups, Laban-based movement training exercises, a historical dance technique class with a demonstration of original choreographies and finishing with a discussion as a chance to chat and socialise.

Intense dance instruction will take one hour of the two-hour session with the option to get a feedback from the instructor.

Sessions are **open to beginners** – as each class explores the basic of a historical style, with examples of the period, discussion of the art and people of the time.

Notes will be provided one week in advance before the class, and some preparation of reading, online surfing, listening to music, and studying dance and art samples is recommended between the classes.

HOW TO BOOK

Tickets are bookable from [EVENTBRITE](#) or <https://tinyurl.com/y3xacq3z>

Admission: £10 per class / £8 for Members of NONSUCH HISTORY AND DANCE

Membership of NONSUCH costs £18 per year.

Members will receive a code for reduction when booking.

Bursaries are also available: please contact NONSUCH for further details.

Contact: info@nonsuchdance.co.uk

Preliminary Schedule

2020 Series One: (5 classes over 3 months)

SESSION 1: Sunday 25th October

Medieval Realms: Estampie & Basse Danse.

Making a trip to the Field of the Cloth of Gold, uniting the royal courts of France with England, and considering mythical pageants, including the dancing in European miracle plays such as the Dance of the Deadly Sins.

SESSION 2: Sunday 15th November

The Italian 15th Century Renaissance: the Dancing World of Leonardo da Vinci.

Considering the social history of the ducal courts, and imagining the star-crossed lovers of Romeo and Juliet meeting on the dance floor. Italian dancing masters travelled throughout Europe, and dances can be constructed from their dance treatises.

SESSION 3: Sunday 29th November

Elizabethan England and the Art of Orchesography: Lascivious La Voltas.

Queen Elizabeth the First held accession celebrations annually in November. Each year, suitors would arrive to woo the Virgin Queen from various European countries including France, Italy and Spain and beyond, but it seems her majesty would reserve her dancing for the intimate chambers of the Inns of Court, or at her favourite palace of Nonsuch.

SESSION 4: Sunday 13th December

Renaissance Revels: 16th & 17th Century Italian Dances and the Jacobean Court.

Wear your mask to explore intrigue and mistaken identity during the dances of masques and revels in honour of King James – King of England and Scotland. Styles alternate between the wild anti-masque movement and the controlled grace of the formal measures.

SESSION 5: Sunday 27th December

Christmas is Restored: Revels for All

Celebrating the Restoration of Christmas with King Charles II, the Merry Monarch! The famous diarist Samuel Pepys tells us of returning to dancing after the plague years. Join the festive fun, learn the original dance to Good King Wensleslas tune, the medieval mumming of Robin Hood, and seasonal Carols.

2021 Series Two: (5 sessions over 3 months)

BOOKING WILL OPEN IN NOVEMBER FOR THE SECOND SERIES

SESSION 6: Sunday 10th January

The King is Dancing: Dances from 1660 – 1715.

King Louis XIV is probably the most famous dancer among the royals. His passion and interest in dance created the first dance academy and laid the foundations for modern day ballet. Learn the basic of “belle danse” style that the King enjoyed at the court in Versailles and on stage at the Paris Opera.

SESSION 7: Sunday 24th January

Enlightened Dance: Dances from 1715 – 1790, Including the Scottish Golden Age.

Exposing the philosophy, science and politics in Georgian Ballrooms. Age of Enlightenment became a foundation of modern society when rigorous scientific, political and philosophical

discourses started to influence all areas of European lifestyle. The great 'Age of Reason' even turned dance into science! During this session we will see how history was written in the most popular dances: minuets, country dances and reels.

SESSION 8: Sunday 7th February

Jane Austen Dancing: Bouncing Cotillions!

Let Cupid prepare you for the dances of courtship for the season of St. Valentine. With many opportunities to dance, and several country dances being published each season, the only dance mentioned by name in her writings is *The Boulanger* in *Pride & Prejudice*. Jane copied the music to one *Rose Cotillion* in her notebook, so we will explore the cotillions of her youth, require nimble footing and all the airs and graces you can master.

SESSION 9: Sunday 21st February

Regency Ballroom: or the Art of being Improper.

Despite their success and long-lasting popularity, waltzes and quadrilles took time to conquer regency ballrooms. This session will connect dance master instructions with reviews, diaries and caricatures to understand the first impression these continental dance forms left on the British public before becoming long-term favourites.

SESSION 10: Sunday 7th March

Dancing with Queen Victoria: the Close Embrace.

After several centuries of dancing formally by your partner's side, during Queen Victoria's reign you are finally allowed the pleasure of swirling together in a close embrace. In this session we will learn the dances that revolutionised the ballrooms of the time: mazurka, marches, gallops, and the polka.

THE FINAL "ONLINE" BALL

SESSION 11: Sunday 21st March

The Spring Equinox Ball

A social event paying our dancing respects to the Renaissance, the Restoration, into the Regency and beyond...