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CLA Test for
Modern Dance
PEDU 290
Spring 2009
Professor Avis Hatcher-Puzzo

Read the following quote from Dr. Pearl Primus:

People use their bodies as an instrument through which every conceivable emotion or event is projected. The result is a hypnotic marriage between life and dance. The two are inseparable. When a child is born, a person is buried…there is a dance. People dance the sowing of seeds and the harvest, puberty rites, hunting, warfare. They dance for rain, sun, strong and numerous children, marriage, and play. Love, hatred, fear, joy, sorrow, disgust, amazement, all these and all other emotions are expressed through rhythmic movement". – Edited by Kariamu Welsh Asante from African Dance: An Artistic Historical and Philosophical Inquiry.

1. From the article, "Urban Bush Women – The Luckman Theatre – Cal. State University", discuss the sentence, **the result is a hypnotic marriage between life and dance.** How does the Urban Bush Women's dance make this idea come alive?

2. Compare Urban Bush Women's founder Jawole Willa Jo Zollar to Pearl Primus, how are these women similar in how they use African and modern dance?

3. How is Pearl Primus' legacy being celebrated or carried on by the Urban Bush Women's dance company?

4. *People use their bodies as an instrument through which every conceivable emotion or event is project*. Looking at the photos in the Urban Bush Women article, explain what emotions or events are being shown.

5. After reading background on Pearl Primus, some of her writings and the Urban Bush Women article, what is your impression of modern and African dance as a means of expressing oneself?