

SAINT LOUIS **BALLET**

PANTOMIME

Pantomime is the art of using gestures without speech as a means of communication. A dancer uses their arms, hands, and facial expression to help the audience understand the story and the character's feelings.

Here are descriptions of some of the most familiar gestures used in ballet.

Anger:	Fist shaken
Beautiful:	Hand circling face
Dancing:	Hands roll as arms lift from front of body to overhead
Death:	Arms straight in front, hands in fists, crossed at wrists
Hear:	Hand cupping ear
I/Me/Mine:	Hand to chest indicating oneself
Love:	Hands over heart
Marriage:	Index finger pointing to ring finger on left hand
No:	Hands wave with palms down, crossing over each other
Obey:	Strong point to the floor with index finger
Pray:	Hands flat, palms together in front of chest
Promise:	The first two fingers on one hand pointing to the sky
Quiet:	Finger pressed against lips or hand clasped over mouth
Remember:	Touch or point to temple
Royal:	Hand circling top of head to indicate crown
Sad:	Fingering tracing tears down face
See:	Finger pointing to eyes
Sleep:	Hands in praying position held on side of face, with head leaning as though resting on a pillow
You:	Arm extending to another person with hand open, palm up or direct point with finger

Can you identify which gesture these pictures represent?


