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Vaslav Nijinsky (1889-1950)

Masara Laginaf

Russian ballet dancer and choreographer, Vaslav Nijinsky is renowned as the greatest male dancer of the early 20th century. His divisive choreography of hyper-extended wrists in *Jeux*, turned-in feet in *Le Sacre du Printemps*, and twisted necks in *Till Eulenspiegel* hint at the pathological movements he witnessed at his brother's asylum. Nijinsky's own mental deterioration in 1919 was documented in a revealing diary, which remains one of the only on-the-spot accounts made by a renowned artist while experiencing the onset of psychosis. Bleuler diagnosed him as a 'confused schizophrenic with mild manic excitement', marking the end of his illustrious career.

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