JOSH BREWSTER

HOTOGRAPH

Come hair and makeup ready. Light, natural makeup is best and hair down is preferred; though for more classic ballet looks a bun is always a good option. Bring hair essentials: hair spray, pins, a brush and headbands just in case!

IN MY MIND, THERE ARE THREE GENRES OF WARDROBE THAT YOU CAN BRING TO YOUR DANCE SHOOT DEPENDING ON WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING YOU WANT TO ACCENTUATE: YOUR BODY/LINES, YOUR MOVEMENT OR YOUR PERSONALITY.

THINGS THAT SHOW SHAPE: You and your lines are what is one display. Keep the clothing streamlined and close to the body. Examples: leotards, unitards, booty shorts and a sports bra.

Things that show MOVEMENT: Flowing dresses. Anything that makes you want to twirl. The More Fabric you can toss around the better.

THINGS THAT SHOW CHARACTER: A CRAZY COSTUME, THE CLASSIC TUTU. LET'S HAVE FUN WITH THIS.

In the end, you know what you look good in, so play to your strengths and bring anything you might want to be photographed in. Expect to only use a fraction of what you bring. Better to have many options and not use all of them than to run out of options.

Treat your body as you would before a competition or a show.

GET PLENTY OF SLEEP. (I LOVE SLEEP)

EAT A SNACK.

Drink some water.

Make sure all clothing and costumes are clean, ironed or steamed and folded nearly for transport to the shoot location. No sense in ruining a great shot with a wrinkled outfit.

Arrive Early (15 minutes or more) to warm up and stretch. If you aren't warm during your photoshoot, it comes through in the photos; the movements aren not as complete and often times the skin shows a network of veins. Don't dance cold: don't photoshoot cold.

Prepare a playlist with music that gets you going and makes you want to move. You don't want me to sing at you, trust me.

Have a open dialog with the photographer. It is usually a good idea to develop a rhythm between the dancer and photographer to perfect the timing of the shoot. Personally, I like to count in "5 6 7 8" and the dancer hits the Leap/Pose/Magical-Movement on "1."

EXPECT TO WORK THE SAME SHOT A NUMBER OF TIMES TO GET IT PERFECT.

Put on your dancing playlist. Energy is a good thing.

HAVE FUN.

Tell the photographer if what he is asking for is impossible... dancers are magical and can do the amazing things... but there are limits.

DOCES AND SHAPES

Know your strengths. If you are super bendy, prepare poses that show off your flexibility. If you are a jumper, prepare a selection of leaps. If you have impeccable balance... you get the point. Find poses that will suit your technique and personality.

The internet is your friend. There are a multitude of excellent dance photographers out there, so use their work for inspiration. It is a good idea to prepare this ahead of time and practice any poses you might have found. I guarantee that their execution is not always as simple as you would expect. Consider creating a folder of images on your phone that you can consult during the shoot.

The following images are a selection of images that I persoanally enjoy and would love to recreate. Some of these are my images, but the majority are inspirational images that I found on other photographer's websites.



