

# CUNNINGHAM

by Alla Kovgan



## SYNOPSIS

The iconic Merce Cunningham and the last generation of his dance company is stunningly profiled in Alla Kovgan's 3D documentary, through recreations of his landmark works and archival footage of Cunningham, John Cage, Robert Rauschenberg, and more.

Even for those who know little about dance, Merce Cunningham is a recognizable name – an iconic figure in his field. His mid-20th century collaborations with composer John Cage (his lifelong partner) and visual artist Robert Rauschenberg were central to an era of transformation. Cunningham resisted "avant-garde" or any other label. "I don't describe it. I do it," he once said.

Now, with Cunningham, we have a chance to experience what he did. Filmmaker Alla Kovgan assembles the last generation of Cunningham dancers (led by Merce Cunningham Dance Company assistant director of choreography Jennifer Goggans) to present landmark works from the Cunningham repertoire. The film concentrates on the three decades from 1942 to 1972 when...

## FESTIVALS

2020

LOLA@Berlinale – Shortlisted for DEUTSCHER FILMPREIS  
DOKUMENTARFILM [German FilmAward]

2019

world premiere - TIFF Toronto

27 Filmfest Hamburg

15 Zurich Film Festival

## CAST AND CREW

DIRECTOR Alla Kovgan · PRODUCER ilann girard, Derrick Tseng,  
Alla Kovgan, Elizabeth Delude-Dix, Kelly Gilpatrick, Helge  
Albers · SCORE Hauschka · EDITOR Andrew Bird, Alla Kovgan ·

USA, France, Germany 2019  
93 min

### FORMAL CATEGORIES

Biographie/Portrait, History,  
Arts/Culture

### ORIGINAL LANGUAGES

English

### PREMIERE

Toronto, Canada (2019)

### WORLD SALES

[dogwoof](#)

19 - 23 Ironmonger Row

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### LINKS / REFERENCE

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