

The film industry of India

The name Bollywood comes from Hollywood's "Ollywood". From the origin of the first cinemas in a famous city in India, Bombay (now called Mumbai) is where the "B" comes from.



Plot of the movies

Most Bollywood movies have this story plot: The heroine and hero meet, then the hero faces a difficulty, the hero fights to save his heroine, they couple have a few hiccups in their relationship, they lose one they love, and then they get married. A happy ever after.

Costumes and makeup

What is most iconic about Bollywood films is their use of costumes, Indians wear elegant clothes for special occasions. There is nearly always a wedding scene in a Bollywood film. In that particular scene, they will have a really colourful and vibrant theme with a song or two. Indians tend to wear a lot of gold, accessories and sparkly decorations. In real life, wedding occasions are presented like this (without the extravagant dancing for a song). Makeup is essential for females as well. The style for makeup is different to the Western style. Most colours on the face will be magenta, red or maroon based.

Examples:



Devdas- Hindi



KuchKuchHotaHai- Hindi



KabhiKusheKabhiGham- Hindi



BangaloreDays- Malayalam

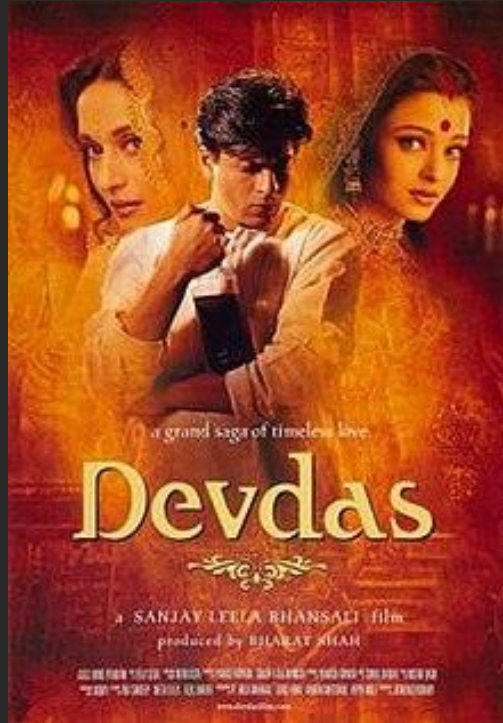
Dynamics and Movements

Bollywood dancing is based off classical dances such as: Bharatanatayam and Kathak. There are hand gestures which come from these ancient forms, that are used in Bollywood dancing. For head movements, in slow moves, females tut their head side to side. This is attami (a certain head movement) from Bharatanatyam.

The dancer's hands don't generally move sharply, they move smoothly, even if it's an energetic song. The performers make intricate hand gestures to make the piece look more beautiful and inquisitive. These hand gestures are called mudras.

Relationships

There is an equal ratio of males to females when dancing. There is a main female dancer and male dancer. This is the hero and heroine. They will most probably have a dance battle. It is a very happy time, and everyone is dancing. When the guys are dancing, the ladies would seem to look bored of their dance, and same with males.



In my opinion, the best Bollywood dancing I have seen in is in Devdas (2002). In Devdas, the hero is Shahruk Khan (King of Bollywood) and the heroines are Aishwarya Rai (one-time Miss World winner) and the amazing actress Madhuri Dixit.

The song is called Dola Re Dola and contains wonderful and exquisite dancing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jbn39j-xa-k>