

# The New Criterion

## Dance

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### One is the loneliest number

by [Laura Jacobs](#)

On the New York City Ballet.

In 1984, when I began reviewing dance in New York City, I was living in Philadelphia. The commute on Amtrak was an hour and a half each way, with a bus or subway on each side. I was on that train three or four times a week, and sometimes both days on weekends. I was seeing dance at City Center and the Joyce, at DTW, P.S. 122, and BAM. American Ballet Theatre, then under the leadership of Mikhail Baryshnikov, would plump down at the Met in late spring through June; July would follow with an international treat—the Paris Opéra or the Bolshoi or the Kirov. The destination that meant most, however, that was the most important and rewarding and demanding, sometimes five performances in one wee ...

**Laura Jacobs's** *Landscape with Moving Figures* is available from Dance & Movement Press.

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