
Subject: Re: My pick for the pic is.... Mad Hot Ballroom

Posted by [lon](#) on Sat, 10 Jun 2006 15:37:36 GMT

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Well, I post some dour things too as someone pointed out a while back. I've seen most if not all of the Astaire films and the tv shows "An Evening With..." as well (one is which my other fave, Ken Nordine was one of the guests.) Dance music and performance pieces choreographed by Hermes Pan are two different things. Astaire worked in the popular medium but it is hardly the vernacular. There's style and grace of Astaire (something I've aspired to but never came close to-- who could?) and the athleticism of Gene Kelly. But there's this other guy (not Ann Miller) who was really athletic and I cannot think of his name, he does one routine-- I should say did --where he was in a gymnasium setting, was doing something on a trapeze, took his landing flat and broke his back. It's startling because I believe the scene remains in the picture which I've only seen once. But no, ballroom dancing, swing and polka are not about watching, they are about participation even if it's just tapping your feet to the beat. One of the few films I've ever walked out on was "All That Jazz", the self-referential pic by and about Bob Fosse. As I'm thinking about this, Bobby Van stands out as one of the smoothest leading man dancers. That's the Bobby Van who wrote "Route 66" and sold to Nat King Cole to perform. Wait. Bobby Troup the pianist wrote "Route 66." Women dancers are more tricky to pick for moves because the man is usually the show-stopper. Can you name a few? Which reminds me that I have to look up some bio on Mussett Vander, one of the evil aliens on Stargate SG1 (season 5).
