

WEIRD RUSSIAN BALLET

Music Defies Harmony and Dances Are Mere Postures.

LONDON, Aug. 16.—Stravinsky's new ballet, "Le Sacre du Printemps" (Spring), had its premier by the Russia ballet, at Drury Lane, last night. M. Nijinsky is responsible for the dancing—perhaps posturing would be the better word—his endeavors being to combine movements, just as a musician does in sounding chords, in order to produce emotional effects.

In this ballet of pagan Russia there is no dancing, in the ordinary sense of the word, but groups of performers go through certain movements which suggest certain ideas.

The critics declare Stravinsky's music has apparently no relation whatever to the ordinary rules of harmony, and leaves even Schenberg behind, while Nijinsky's choreography, although it produced some clever effects at times, is apparently nothing but aimless movements.

The audience listened to the music and watched the performers in astonishment, and at the end there was a mixture of applause and hisses, although the applause finally won.