



Rebecca Kelly Ballet—Early Years in NYC

Charlie Chaplin was the inspiration for many of her ballets and busking events! The solo, "**Charles**," choreographed to Chopin waltzes, was also influenced by Kelly's early years with modern dance pioneer Charles Weidman. These early theatrical works were performed between 1975 and 1984 in Manhattan (and on tour with the Vanaver Caravan.)

"**Mignonne**," set to music by Chopin and Bach, was a tale of unrequited love told through the character of the Little Tramp who gets a job as a stage hand. Created in 1980 in collaboration with cellist, Abby Newton as Mignonne, "the beautiful concert artist," and dancer Craig Brashear as "the boss," originally performed at Appleby Studio Theater in SoHo in 1978, and Dance Theater Workshop, in NYC. The whimsical "broom dance" was performed on many occasions.

Pictured above: "Charles" is with dancer / choreography Toni Smith, out for a stroll on West Broadway, and in front of the iconic Vesuvio Bakery in SoHo. Photo by Otto Berk.

Other photographs: Appleby, and unknown

CHARLIE CHAPLIN



Rebecca Kelly



