

Isadora Duncan's School of Dancing

MISS ISADORA DUNCAN, well known in this country as an exponent of classic dances, has for some time maintained a school for dancing in an old chateau on the outskirts of Paris. When war broke out, and the city was threatened, Miss Duncan packed off her charges to America and they are now ensconced for the winter at Rye, near New York. The school is made up of some nineteen pupils, consisting of Russian, French, English, German and American children, ranging in age from six years all the way to nineteen. Some of the older girls have been under the care of Miss Duncan for nearly ten years, and in her absence they serve as instructors for the younger ones. By means of this method, Miss Duncan hopes that the school will achieve her ambition for it: namely, the perpetuation of classical dancing. The children all lead a healthy, open air life, and what with dancing, other studies and long country walks they are kept happily busy. At a recent performance in New York, for the benefit of French artists and their families rendered destitute by the European upheaval, the Duncan pupils, in conjunction with the orchestra of the New York Symphony Society, made a very favorable impression with a series of classic solo and grouped dances.



Photos made for Vanity Fair by Frances Benjamin Johnston and Mattie Edwards Hewitt

At the left, Jean, a small Frenchman, the only boy in the school, cartwheeling over the turf with an American pupil

At the top are five of the older girls about to practise a figure on the lawn of the school, overlooking Long Island Sound

Directly above is a group of the older girls, who have been with Miss Duncan for years. Her niece is at the right