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Ornette was fantastic. Frances Davis was also fantastic.

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"Miles liked Ornette," noted the restaurant hostess as though it were the most natural thing to say in the world. Adam and I were grabbing a bite at Hamburger Hamlet before what would be a wonderful [Ornette Coleman concert at Royce Hall](#).

Yes, *that* Miles. And this beautiful lady knew his taste. She was married for nine years to the great trumpeter. And for the past twenty years, Frances Davis has been a reigning gracious presence at the Hamlet's entryway.

Still lovely and fit, the former dancer tells a sad story that her jealous husband pulled her from the original cast of "West Side Story" because he wanted her to be available for him. Wow. Even Edith Piaf would have regrets over that one.

Miles featured his beautiful wife on four album covers but never more fetchingly than on "Someday My Prince Will Come." God, is she gorgeous.

Frances gave us a brief recap of her dance life. She *only* wanted to do ballet, but with few opportunities for African-Americans in the field, she instead found herself dancing with Katherine Dunham — no huge punishment! Touring with Dunham in Paris, she somehow appeared with the Paris Opera Ballet. Now that's a story I need to get more detail on.

Since [arts-meme](#) loves Miles Davis, hamburgers, Katherine Dunham, and anything that took place in Paris, don't you think a return visit with Frances Davis is called for?

I do.

