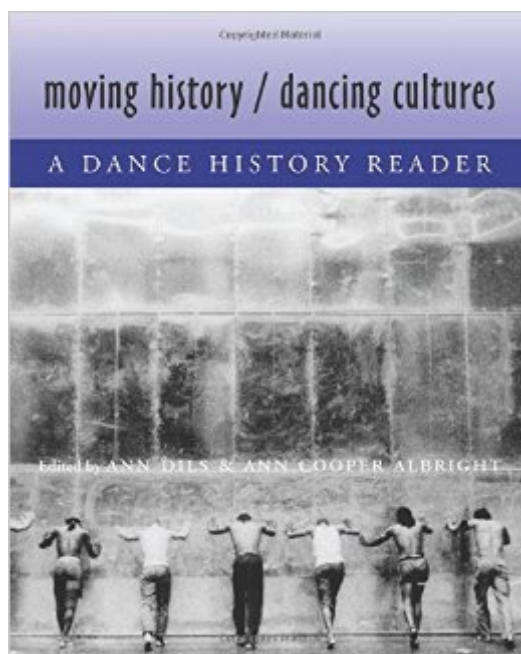


The book was found

Moving History/Dancing Cultures: A Dance History Reader



Synopsis

This new collection of essays surveys the history of dance in an innovative and wide-ranging fashion. Editors Dils and Albright address the current dearth of comprehensive teaching material in the dance history field through the creation of a multifaceted, non-linear, yet well-structured and comprehensive survey of select moments in the development of both American and World dance. This book is illustrated with over 50 photographs, and would make an ideal text for undergraduate classes in dance ethnography, criticism or appreciation, as well as dance history—particularly those with a cross-cultural, contemporary, or an American focus. The reader is organized into four thematic sections which allow for varied and individualized course use: Thinking about Dance History: Theories and Practices, World Dance Traditions, America Dancing, and Contemporary Dance: Global Contexts. The editors have structured the readings with the understanding that contemporary theory has thoroughly questioned the discursive construction of history and the resultant canonization of certain dances, texts and points of view. The historical readings are presented in a way that encourages thoughtful analysis and allows the opportunity for critical engagement with the text.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The editors of this book want to be cultural anthropologists and have a feminist, anti-ballet agenda. There are over 50 articles in this book and only one is about ballet and it is about travesty dancers during the Romantic Period. Ballet is discussed negatively in several other articles that deal with other forms of dance. There is an article about Lincoln Kirstein who helped George Balanchine

found the NYC Ballet, but this article is about Kirstein's desire to be the next Diaghilev, not about the NYC Ballet. What a disappointment that the editors could not have found a better article. There is a section called "America Dancing" that has no articles about dance in Broadway or films; there is no mention of ABT or the NYC Ballet outside the Kirstein/Diaghilev article. Just about every article in this section deals with modern dance. Surely America has more styles of dance than modern. In contrast, over 20 articles deal with dance as cultural anthropology, and four articles deal with contact improvisation, editor Albright's preferred style of dance. Most of the articles are written in a dry, pedantic style that is difficult to read. I had to purchase this book for a dance history course and will be selling it as soon as the semester is over. No one in my class outside of the instructor likes this book.

I needed this for a class in Dance across world cultures. For a textbook it did its job in that it provided me with information to use for research papers etc. Other than that, the book was boring, I enjoy dance and everything about it but this book was just blah. I only read what I needed for class and now that its over I am not interested in reading it on my own.

Got this book for Dance101 at CUNY Queens College Spring 2014. so far I like it, mostly we read the stories about Ballet for class. Its interesting to read about something and then practice doing it

An essential read for anyone interested in ethnodanceology, history of dance and the influences on current culture. A premier resource.

I had to buy this for school. I even had to read it for school. This is not something I would read for fun, but not failing my class is fun, so I guess that counts, right?

Came in just in time. Love the book, helped with my final class. Highly recommend this reading for all dance majors

For a text book it was great, but I thought it was going to be more of like a anthropological journal.

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