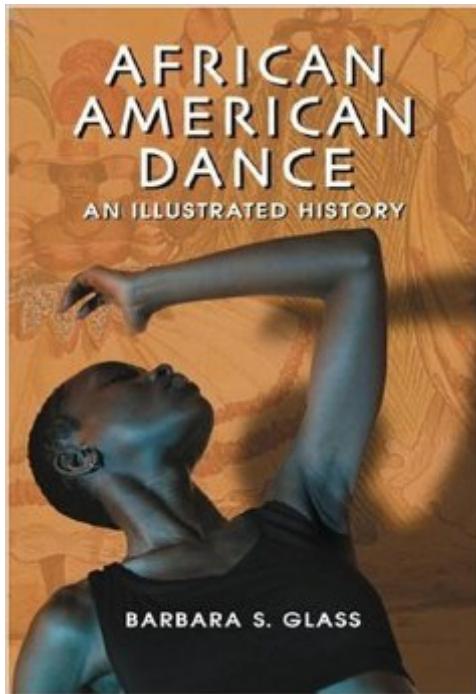


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African American Dance: An Illustrated History



Synopsis

Africans brought as slaves to North America arrived without possessions, but not without culture. The fascinating elements of African life manifested themselves richly in the New World, and among the most lasting and influential of these was the art of African dance. This generously illustrated exploration of African American dance history follows the dynamics of the dance forms throughout each generation. Chapter 1 provides introductory information about the African continent and the heritage that spawned African American dance. Following is a discussion of the discrimination and marginalization endured by African Americans, and the fortitude with which the dance survived and became increasingly important in American culture. Chapters 2 and 3 explore black dance in the slavery era and the variety of black festivals and gatherings that helped to preserve and showcase African-based dance throughout the nineteenth century. Remaining chapters outline ten major characteristics that have consistently marked African American dance, and describe the various styles of black vernacular dance that became popular in America--the Ring Shout, Buzzard Lope, Cakewalk, Shimmy, Charleston, Black Bottom, Big Apple, Lindy Hop, and more. Chapter 8 concludes with a discussion of African dance at the end of the twentieth century and its important role in the flowering of African American arts.

Book Information

Hardcover: 319 pages

Publisher: McFarland & Company (November 27, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0786428163

ISBN-13: 978-0786428168

Product Dimensions: 10 x 7.3 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #493,261 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Folk #93 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Performing Arts > Dance #2385 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Criticism

Customer Reviews

This book offers an in-depth look into the history of African-American dance. I really enjoyed learning about how society, slavery, and the African heritage shaped the African American dance form. Highly recommended for those looking to learn more about African American culture and

dance.

ordered this book for my American Dance class. It was in great shape, and has provided me with a lot of background into the dance world.

I never knew a book like this existed. It is a great addition to my collection of African-American/Afro-Caribbean history.

I ordered a bunch of books from different sellers for my spring semester and this was the first to arrive. It was almost like new and I have no complaints.

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