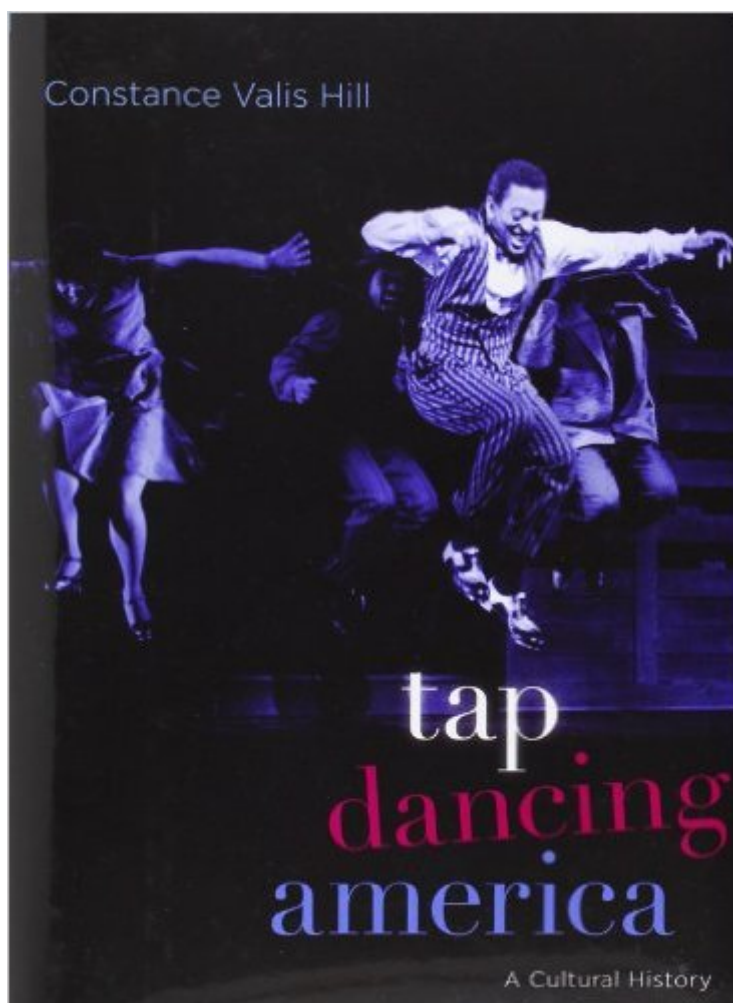


The book was found

Tap Dancing America: A Cultural History



Synopsis

Here is the vibrant, colorful, high-stepping story of tap--the first comprehensive, fully documented history of a uniquely American art form, exploring all aspects of the intricate musical and social exchange that evolved from Afro-Irish percussive step dances like the jig, gioube, buck-and-wing, and juba to the work of such contemporary tap luminaries as Gregory Hines, Brenda Bufalino, Dianne Walker, and Savion Glover. In *Tap Dancing America*, Constance Valis Hill, herself an accomplished jazz tap dancer, choreographer, and performance scholar, begins with a dramatic account of a buck dance challenge between Bill "Bojangles" Robinson and Harry Swinton at Brooklyn's Bijou Theatre, on March 30, 1900, and proceeds decade by decade through the 20th century to the present day. She vividly describes tap's musical styles and steps--from buck-and-wing and ragtime stepping at the turn of the century; jazz tapping to the rhythms of hot jazz, swing, and bebop in the '20s, '30s and '40s; to hip-hop-inflected hitting and hoofing in heels (high and low) from the 1990s right up to today. Tap was long considered "a man's game," and Hill's is the first history to highlight such outstanding female dancers as Ada Overton Walker, Kitty O'Neill, and Alice Whitman, at the turn of the 20th century, as well as the pioneering women composers of the tap renaissance, in the 70s and 80s, and the hard-hitting rhythm-tapping women of the millennium such as Chloe Arnold, Ayodele Casel, Michelle Dorrance, and Dormeshia Sumbry Edwards. Written with all the verve and grace of tap itself, drawing on eye-witness accounts of early performances as well as interviews with today's greatest tappers, and richly illustrated with over ninety images, *Tap Dancing America* fills a major gap in American dance history and places tap firmly center stage.

Book Information

Hardcover: 464 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (January 22, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195390822

ISBN-13: 978-0195390827

Product Dimensions: 10 x 1.2 x 7.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,243,933 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #25 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Tap](#) #1083 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment >](#)

Customer Reviews

This book is FANTASTIC! It's a great resource for all dancers and dance historians. I assigned this book for my students to read this semester and I think it will be hugely successful.

This wonderful book tells SO MUCH tap dance history... It is a MUST-HAVE for every tap dancer!

I am not a dancer by any means, but for my dance term paper I wrote about each man in the "Challenge" scene from the movie TAP. This book had everything I needed.

Excellence abounds in this history of tap dancing. I have read many books on the history of tap dancing and this book is so detailed. Would highly recommend it!

GREAT BOOK!

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