Queer Dance

Because LGBTQ people have made innumerable accomplishments to the field of modern dance, it is unsurprising that there is a large body of writing on the subject. At the same time, many queer novels and mysteries are set in the world of dance. The SNMA has over 150 books related to dance, with a focus on the biographies and memoirs of famous dancers, especially gay ballet stars, from the 1980s to the present.

A biography and dance company history of the Joffrey Ballet.

A memoir by the celebrated dancer of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company.

An ethnographic study of gay, lesbian, and queer club culture in 1990s New York City.

A memoir about the author’s relationship with his sister and collaborator.

An exhibition catalogue focused on the accomplishments of the avant-garde dancer.

A gay romance novel set in the contemporary Russian ballet world.

A biography of the pathbreaking Black gay dancer, choreographer, and founder of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater.

The life story of the legendary Russian ballet dancer and choreography.

A scholarly study of how the AIDS pandemic impacted dance.

A memoir of the first American to join the Bolshoi Ballet.
A memoir of the dancer, choreographer, and co-founder of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company.

The autobiography of the ballet star.

A biography of the Broadway and Hollywood choreographer and director.

An erotic historical fiction novel in 1950s New York.

An erotic novel based on the life story of Russian dancer Rudolf Nureyev.

A book of photos of, as well as essays about, Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor, Twyla Tharp, Trisha Brown, and Mark Morris.

An autobiography of the famed modern dancer and choreographer.

Five essays on the pioneering modern-dance choreographer and dancer.

A biography of the legendary Russian dancer and choreographer.

A biography of the pioneering modern dancer.

A photo book featuring portraits of contemporary male dancers of many styles.

A biography of Serge Diaghilev, the founder of the Ballets Russes.

Jane Sherman and Barton Mumaw, *Barton Mumaw, Dancer from Denishawn to Jacob’s Pillow and Beyond* (New York: Dance Horizons, 1986).
A memoir that weaves together the professional, artistic, and personal elements of Mumaw’s life.

A biography of the celebrated Russian ballet dancer.

A biography of the Florida-born ballet star.

A study of how queer people have contributed to the ballet as makers and audiences.

A memoir of the modern dancer, choreographer, and founder of the Paul Taylor Dance Company.

Autobiography of the Broadway dancer and choreographer.

A murder mystery involving a ballet company.

A collection of black-and-white photographs by the celebrated dance and theater photographer.