

SNMA Library
April 5, 2021

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.

Sasha Anawalt, *The Joffrey Ballet: Robert Joffrey and the Making of an American Dance Company* (New York: Scribner, 1996).

A biography and dance company history of the Joffrey Ballet.

Carolyn Brown, *Chance and Circumstance: Twenty Years with Cage and Cunningham* (New York: Knopf, 2007).

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

Fiona Buckland, *Impossible Dance: Club Culture and Queer World-Making* (Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 2002).

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

Christopher Ciccone, *Life with My Sister Madonna* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2008).

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

Bonnie Clearwater, *Merce Cunningham: Dancing on the Cutting Edge* (North Miami: Museum of Contemporary Art, 2007).

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

H.L. Day, *Dance Too Far* (Independently published, 2019).

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

Jennifer Dunning, *Alvin Ailey: A Life in Dance* (Reading, MA: Addison Wesley, 1996).

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

Vicente Garcia-Marquez, *Massine: A Biography* (New York: Knopf, 1995).

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

David Gere, *How to Make Dances in an Epidemic: Tracking Choreography in the Age of AIDS* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2004).

A scholarly study of how the AIDS pandemic impacted dance.

David Hallberg, *A Body of Work: Dancing to the Edge and Back* (New York: Touchstone, 2017).

A memoir of the first American to join the Bolshoi Ballet.

- Bill T. Jones, *Last Night on Earth* (New York: Pantheon, 1995).
A memoir of the dancer, choreographer, and co-founder of the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company.
- Robert La Fosse, *Nothing to Hide: A Dancer's Life* (New York: D.I. Fine, 1987).
The autobiography of the ballet star.
- Greg Lawrence, *Dance with Demons: The Life of Jerome Robbins* (New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons).
A biography of the Broadway and Hollywood choreographer and director.
- David Leddick, *The Sex Squad* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 1998).
An erotic historical fiction novel in 1950s New York.
- Colum McCann, *Dancer: A Novel* (New York: Metropolitan, 2003).
An erotic novel based on the life story of Russian dancer Rudolf Nureyev.
- J. Abbott Miller, Patsy Tarr, and Nancy Dalva. *Dance Ink: Photographs* (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1997).
A book of photos of, as well as essays about, Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor, Twyla Tharp, Trisha Brown, and Mark Morris.
- Mark Morris, *Out Loud: A Memoir* (New York: Penguin Press, 2019).
An autobiography of the famed modern dancer and choreographer.
- M. L. Gordon Norton, ed., *On the Dance of Erick Hawkins* (New York: Foundation for Modern Dance, 1979).
Five essays on the pioneering modern-dance choreographer and dancer.
- Derek Parker, *Nijinsky: God of the Dance* (Wellingborough, UK: Equation, 1988).
A biography of the legendary Russian dancer and choreographer.
- Stephen Papich, *Remembering Josephine Baker* (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1976).
A biography of the pioneering modern dancer.
- François Rousseau, *Men in Motion: The Art and Passion of the Male Dancer* (New York: Universe, 2009).
A photo book featuring portraits of contemporary male dancers of many styles.
- Sjeng Scheijen, *Diaghilev: A Life* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009).
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.

Otis Stuart, *Perpetual Motion: The Public and Private Life of Rudolf Nureyev* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1995).

A biography of the celebrated Russian ballet dancer.

Diane Solway, *A Dance Against Time* (New York: Pocket Books, 1994).

A biography of the Florida-born ballet star.

Peter Stoneley, *A Queer History of the Ballet* (New York: Routledge, 2007).

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

Paul Taylor, *Private Domain* (New York: Knopf, 1987).

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

Tommy Tune, *Footnotes: A Memoir* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1997).

Autobiography of the Broadway dancer and choreographer.

Gore Vidal, *Death in the Fifth Position* (New York: Vintage Books, 1979 [1952]).

A murder mystery involving a ballet company.

Max Waldman, *Waldman on Dance* (New York: Morrow, 1977).

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