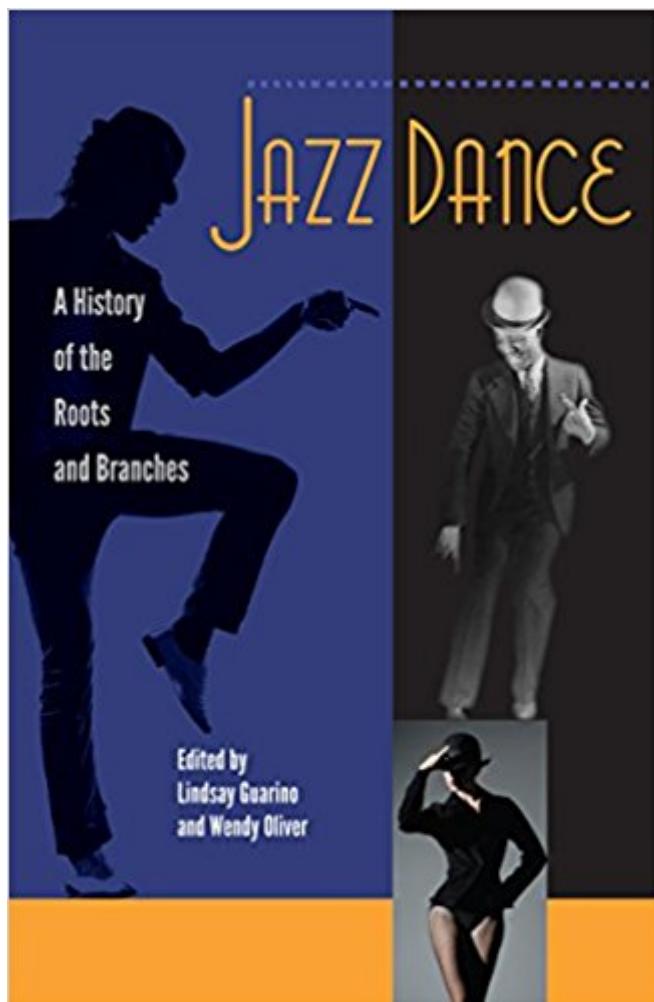


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# Jazz Dance: A History Of The Roots And Branches



## Synopsis

“A must-read for all dancers as the invaluable historical references and in-depth coverage of the different jazz forms cannot be found in such detail in any other book on the market today.” •Debra McWaters, author of *Musical Theatre Training* “Artfully weaves history and professional perspectives to reveal the boundaries of the jazz dance world. It invites the reader to develop a more complicated definition of jazz dance for the twenty-first century.” •Susan A. Lee, Northwestern University The history of jazz dance is best understood by thinking of it as a tree. The roots of jazz dance are African. Its trunk is vernacular, shaped by European influence, and exemplified by the Charleston and the Lindy Hop. From the vernacular have grown many and varied branches, including tap, Broadway, funk, hip-hop, Afro-Caribbean, Latin, pop, club jazz, popping, B-boying, party dances, and more. Unique in its focus on history rather than technique, *Jazz Dance* offers the only overview of trends and developments since 1960. Editors Lindsay Guarino and Wendy Oliver have assembled an array of seasoned practitioners and scholars who trace the numerous histories of jazz dance and examine various aspects of the field, including trends, influences, training, race, aesthetics, international appeal, and its relationship to tap, rock, indie, black concert dance, and Latin dance. Featuring discussions of such dancers and choreographers as Bob Fosse and Katherine Dunham, as well as analyses of how the form’s vocabulary differs from ballet, this complex and compelling history captures the very essence of jazz dance.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Culls together some of the best contemporary scholarship on the history, progenitors, and cultural forces that shape the uniquely American art form known as jazz dance.”  
•New Books in Dance

Lindsay Guarino, an active dancer and choreographer, is assistant professor of dance at Salve Regina University and serves as the artistic director of Extensions Dance Company. Wendy Oliver, professor of dance at Providence College and past winner of the National Dance Association Scholar/Artist award, is the author of *Writing about Dance*.

Love this book - very informative and accurate information on everything jazz dance. I appreciate the layout of the book. It makes for a very easy read. It's a great book to learn the overall history of jazz dance but also to use as a reference or teaching aid. One of my favorite things about the book is how it describes all the different types of jazz dance. It's very thorough and most importantly, current and up to date with the trend that jazz dance has taken. Highly recommend. I haven't been able to find a book that compares to this one.

A GREAT book for dance folks with lots of detailed information regarding the establishment of jazz dance and jazz culture in America. I use this for my Dance History course I teach and also provide selected readings for other Jazz specific courses as well.

amazing history!!! This book is a must read for teachers, students and dance lovers. Finally good research done for the pioneers

Wide range in quality among the different writers in this book. Some chapters were informative while others needed a big edit.

This book is essential for anyone who teaches, practices or enjoys jazz dance. This is the book we have been waiting for.

Very informative and well layed out. The reader will now have a good understanding of jazz dance and its history.

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