Mirrors and Scrimmies
The Life and Afterlife of Ballet

MARCIA B. SIEGEL

How ballet repertory adapts, evolves, and reflects contemporary culture

In this stunning new collection of reviews and essays, dance critic Marcia B. Siegel grapples with the floating identity of ballet, as well as particular ballets, and with the expanding environment of spectacle in which ballet competes for an audience. Drawn from a wide variety of published sources, these writings concentrate on canonical works of ballet and how the performances of these works have been changing in significant ways as they are interpreted and re-presented by contemporary choreographers and dancers.

“This remarkable collection reconfirms Marcia B. Siegel’s stature as one of our most penetrating observers of dance. Ranging from Diaghilev to Balanchine, Forsythe, and Tharp, it masterfully explores issues of history, reinvention, and artistic change in the world of twentieth-century ballet, while evoking memorable artists and performances.”

LYNN GARAFOLA, author of Diaghilev’s Ballets Russes


Movable Pillars
Organizing Dance, 1956–1978

KATJA KOLCIO

How six professional dance organizations transformed the landscape of modern dance scholarship

Movable Pillars traces the development of dance as scholarly inquiry and describes the social-political factors that facilitated a surge of interest in dance research in the period following World War II. This surge was reflected in the emergence of six key dance organizations: the American Dance Guild, the Congress on Research in Dance, the American Dance Therapy Association, the American College Dance Festival Association, the Dance Critics Association, and the Society of Dance History Scholars. An impeccable work of archival scholarship and interpretive history, featuring nineteen interviews with dance luminaries who were intimately involved in the early years of each group.

“These thoughtful and compelling interviews invite us to reflect on the role of these vital dance organizations in furthering the legitimization of education, scholarship, and therapeutic practice in the evolving field of dance as an academic discipline.”

SUSAN A. LEE, dance program head, Northwestern University

KATJA KOLCIO is an associate professor of dance at Wesleyan University.
Balasaraswati
Her Art and Life

DOUGLAS M. KNIGHT JR.

An intimate portrait of one of the great performing artists of the twentieth century

This is the first complete biography of T. Balasaraswati (1918–1984), an internationally acclaimed dancer and musician from southern India. Her life story offers an extraordinary view of the matrilineal devadasi community and traditional artistic practice from which modern South Indian dance styles have emerged. This deeply engaging biography draws together Balasaraswati’s personal account of her life and her reflections on the process of making dance and music with the commentary of family members and dozens of contemporaries from throughout her fifty-year career. The book is generously illustrated with rare historical photos and a duotone gallery of distinguished photographers’ images of Balasaraswati’s dancing.

“A fascinating book written with knowledge, understanding, and talent celebrating the twentieth century’s greatest bharata natyam performer, the incomparable Balasaraswati.”

CHARLES L. REINHART, director, American Dance Festival

DOUGLAS M. KNIGHT JR. is a musician and independent scholar. He has appeared in performance with Balasaraswati, her brothers Ranganathan and Viswanathan, and her daughter, Lakshmi Knight, and grandson, Anirudda Knight. Douglas Knight has been a Fulbright Scholar and Guggenheim Fellow.

The South Korean Film Renaissance
Local Hitmakers, Global Provocateurs

JINHEE CHOI

How a homegrown cinema took on Hollywood and dazzled Cannes

Over the past decade, Korean cinema has proven to be commercially viable in the domestic and regional markets while also appealing to cinemophiles on the international festival circuit. Jinhee Choi examines how the Korean film industry turned an economic crisis into a cinematic renaissance in the face of globalization, and reveals how Korean cinema has transformed narrative and style in various production trends, portraying issues immediate to Korean audiences while incorporating the transnational aesthetics of Hollywood, Europe, and Asia. Appendixes include box office rankings, numbers of films produced and released, market shares, and film festival showings.

“For a decade South Korea has created films that galvanize a local audience, regional audiences, film festivals, and the European and North American multiplexes. This discerning study reveals in fascinating detail how a small local cinema became a global powerhouse.”

DAVID BORDWELL, University of Wisconsin–Madison

JINHEE CHOI is a lecturer in film studies at the University of Kent, U.K. She is the coeditor of Philosophy of Film and Motion Pictures (2005) and Horror to the Extreme (2009).
Rococo and Other Worlds
Selected Poems

AFZAL AHMED SYED
TRANSLATED BY MUSHARRAF ALI FAROOQI

First English language publication of Urdu’s greatest modern poet

Afzal Ahmed Syed holds a unique place among contemporary poets of the Urdu language, as a master of both the classical and modern Urdu poetic forms. The poems in Rococo and Other Worlds explore the mythology and historical realities of South Asia and the Middle East; their bold imagery creates narratives of voluptuous perfection, which remain inseparable from the political realities that Syed witnessed as a young observer of the violent separation of East Pakistan and emergence of Bangladesh in 1971 and of the Lebanese civil war in 1976. Musharraf Ali Farooqi’s sensitive translations bring this extraordinary work to English readers for the first time.

AFZAL AHMED SYED is the author of numerous volumes of poetry and translations of Western literature into Urdu, including works by Gabriel García Márquez and Jean Genet. MUSHARRAF ALI FAROOQI is an author, novelist, and translator. His books include translations of the Urdu classics The Adventures of Amir Hamza (2007) and Hoshruba (2009), and the novel, The Story of a Widow (2008).

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Grace, Fallen from

MARIANNE BORUCH

Illuminating poetry that quiets and startles and troubles

In this wry and riveting collection, Marianne Boruch discovers things often taken for granted and holds them up to a deceptively casual light, questioning them both mercilessly and mercifully. Employing a masterly range of tone and form, Boruch makes a sometimes strange but always revealing investigation of world and self, history and memory, resistance and release. The lyric impulse in these deeply interior poems stops time, even as the world, indifferent to its mystery, keeps happening.

“Boruch’s superb instinct for the structure of free verse and her fine eye for daily life have won her national respect . . . Few readers will come away unimpressed by the supple care Boruch takes in depicting her everyday scenes.”

Publishers Weekly

MARIANNE BORUCH is the author of five previous collections, including Descendant (1989) and Poems: New and Selected (2004), and was a finalist for the Lenore Marshall Prize from the Academy of American Poets. For two decades, she has taught in the MFA Program at Purdue and semi-regularly in the non-residential program at Warren Wilson College.

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.
Seven Controlled Vocabularies and Obituary 2004. The Joy of Cooking
[Airport Novel Musical Poem Painting Theory Film Photo Hallucination Landscape]

TAN LIN

A modular, easy-to-read relaxation device

Seven Controlled Vocabularies comprises a generic field guide where distinctions between aesthetic disciplines are dissolved and avant-garde notions of difficulty replaced with more relaxing and ambient formats: yoga, disco, and meditation. Each of the book’s seven sections is devoted to a particular art form—film, photography, painting, the novel, architecture, music, and theory—and explores the idea of what it means to be a book in an era when reading is disappearing into a diverse array of cultural products, media formats, and distribution systems.

“These recipes for literary ingestion compute and activate our era’s feelings. They autofill the blankest of architectural perfumes, landscapes, cigarettes in airports, and photos of my labels. Tan Lin reads my Wal-Mart in an utterly, compellingly boring way. He cures my indigestion.”

WARREN LIU, professor of English, Scripps College

TAN LIN has published three books of poetry, and is a professor of English and creative writing at New Jersey City University.

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Exposition Park

ROBERTO TEJADA

A midway of poetic styles and syllabic tableaux

Imagine a walking tour of stanzas and prose poems that give lyric voice to sight, public speech, and spectacle. In Exhibition Park, Roberto Tejada undertakes a wide range of subjects motivated by artworks from Latin America and the United States covering the colonial period to the present day. In serial poems, short sketches, guidebook parodies, painterly triptychs, translations, and other word-based dioramas, Tejada coins wonder with historical styles—baroque, classic, and experimental. As likened to a world’s fair, the resulting voices intone global stories, the dream life of art, and first-person atmospheres both premodern and postindustrial.

“Tejada’s work is with dismantling borders and upsetting classifications . . . The result is a layered poetry that finds its form in dense stanzas composed of lines that frequently veer toward a kind of fractured prose.”

ALAN GILBERT, in Another Future

ROBERTO TEJADA is on the faculty of the Department of Art and Art History at the University of Texas, Austin. In addition to critical works, he has published several poetry books including Gift + Verdict (1999), Amulet Anatomy (2001), and Mirrors for Gold (2006), and he is co-editor of the journal Manderla: New Writing from the Americas.

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.
A History of Economic Thought

William J. Barber

An invigorating study of the development of systematic economic ideas

Many of the issues that faced economists in the past are still with us. This classic 1967 study has sold over 150,000 copies in English alone, and shows how the theories and methods of such men as Adam Smith, T. R. Malthus, David Ricardo, J. S. Mill, Karl Marx, Alfred Marshall, and J. M. Keynes are often relevant to us today—and we can always learn from their mistakes. For several decades, the economics establishment has been dismissive of Keynesianism, arguing that the world has moved beyond “depression economics.” Keynesian economics, however, has now staged a comeback as governments attempt to formulate policy responses to the Great Recession that began in 2007. Esteemed economics scholar William J. Barber highlights the central properties of the four main schools of economic thought—classical, Marxian, neoclassical, and Keynesian—and shows that although each of these traditions is rooted in a different stage of economic development, they can all provide insights into the recurring problems of modern economics.

William J. Barber is the Andrews Professor of Economics, Emeritus, at Wesleyan University. He is a Distinguished Fellow and past president of the History of Economics Society.

Among the Jasmine Trees

Music and Modernity in Contemporary Syria

Jonathan Holt Shannon

The first ethnographic study of music-making in modern Syria

How does a Middle Eastern community create a modern image through its expression of heritage and authenticity? Syria’s musical culture is particularly known for embracing and preserving the Arab musical tradition and has seldom been researched in depth by Western scholars. Here, Jonathan Holt Shannon explores a variety of performance genres, Sufi rituals, song lyrics, melodic modes, and aesthetic criteria, detailing this music and its reception for the first time, offering an original theoretical framework for understanding contemporary Arab culture, music, and society.

“Among the Jasmine Trees is a hauntingly beautiful example of all that is best in contemporary anthropology and ethnomusicology and their mutual nexus with performance studies and ideas of embodied knowledge.”

Jonathan Zilberg, Leonardo

Jonathan Holt Shannon is an associate professor in the Department of Anthropology at Hunter College of the City University of New York.
Music and Cyberliberties

PATRICK BURKART

An activist’s guide for musicians and fans opposed to the major label lockdown of online music

Musicians and music fans are at the forefront of cyberliberties activism. Music and Cyberliberties identifies the groups—alternative and radical media activists, culture jammers, hackers, netlabels, and critical legal scholars—who are pushing back against the “copyright grab” by major labels for the rights and privileges that were once enjoyed by artists and fans, tracking the migration of music advocacy and anti-major label activism since the court defeat of Napster and the ascendancy of the so-called Celestial Jukebox model of music e-commerce.

“In this smart, readable book Patrick Burkart theorizes the ways that ubiquitous and powerful technologies have penetrated every aspect of our lives and vividly illustrates what is at stake in the battles over digital music. This is essential reading for those who want to learn more about our changing online world.”

KEMBREW McLEOD, author of Freedom of Expression

PATRICK BURKART is an associate professor in the Department of Communication at Texas A&M University. He is the coauthor of Digital Music Wars: Ownership and Control of the Celestial Jukebox (2006).

Stance

Ideas about Emotion, Style, and Meaning for the Study of Expressive Culture

HARRIS M. BERGER

How we find and make meaning through music and performance

Why does music move us? How do the immediate situation and larger social contexts influence the meanings that people find in stories, rituals, or films? “Stance is a fascinating study that challenges conventional thinking about cultural experience. It presents the rare combination of high-level philosophical theory and a serious engagement with a wide range of cultural practices in everyday life—from heavy metal guitar performance to undergraduate recitals, and beyond to mass media entertainment,” says Fabian Holt, author of Genre in Popular Music. This book will be of immediate interest to anyone in ethnomusicology, folklore, popular music studies, anthropology, or performance studies.

HARRIS M. BERGER is an associate professor of music and performance studies at Texas A&M University. He is the author of Metal, Rock, and Jazz (1999) and coauthor of Identity and Everyday Life (2004).