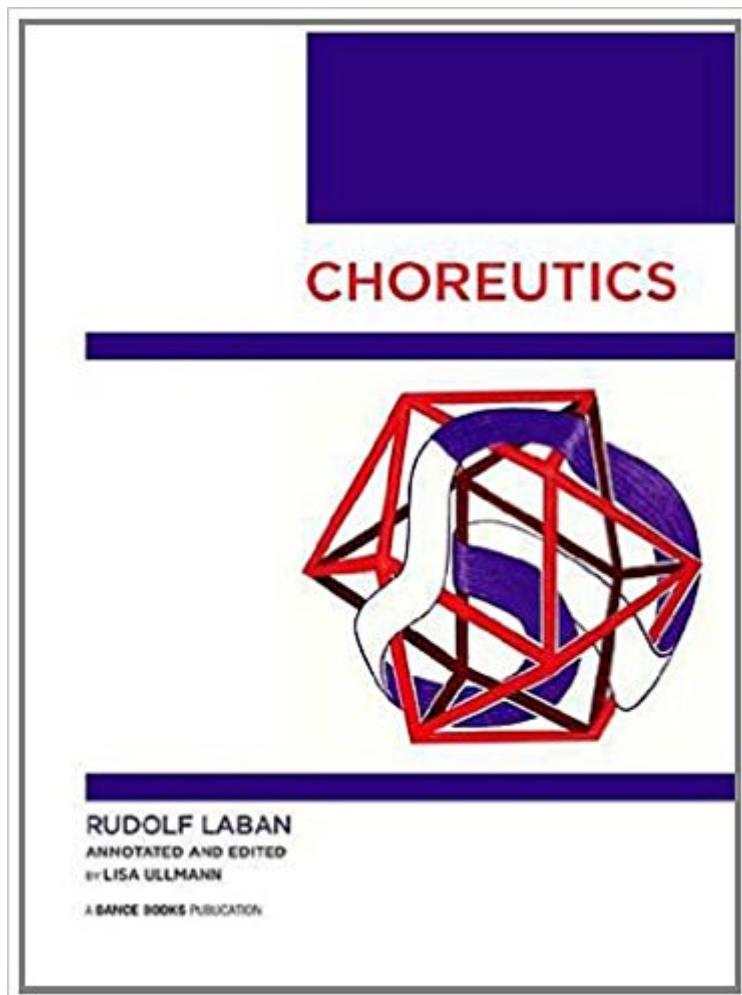


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Choreutics



Synopsis

When towards the end of the nineteenth century Rudolf Laban began to take an interest in all forms of dance, it was with an enthusiastically searching mind, looking for the very roots of active living. He believed the key for the unfolding of human capacities to be embedded in the dynamic configurations of dance and that man could enhance his creative powers by becoming aware of the nature of shapes and rhythms through which living organisms express and communicate. Choreutics can be said to contain the essence of Laban's thought as well as an elaboration of the framework which he found useful for the penetration of the bewildering complexity of human movement. This he based on the unity of space and movement and he recognised a natural order in which the energy from within unfolds in space. This book gives a cogent account of the basis of Laban's Space Harmony; this may become of similar significance to the dancer, dance teacher and choreographer as Harmony of Music - with which it can be compared - is to the musician. Of special interest in this volume is the explicit presentation of the grammatical and syntactical aspects of the language of movement together with consideration of its notation. It is shown that this language is relevant not only to the dancer, actor and musician but also to the architect, designer and sculptor, and moreover that the aspects of Harmony stretch beyond the bounds of aesthetical use into the field of everyday living. This is a facsimile reprint of the first edition, published in 1966.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Dance Books Ltd (November 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1852731486

ISBN-13: 978-1852731489

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.5 x 9.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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