

The Pina Bausch Sourcebook: Inside the Making of Tanztheater, a Revolutionary Movement



The Pina Bausch Sourcebook: The Making of Tanztheater by Royd Climenhaga

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
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Pina Bausch: A Visionary Pioneer in Dance

Pina Bausch, a German choreographer and dancer, is widely regarded as one of the most influential and innovative figures in contemporary dance. Her unique approach to movement, known as Tanztheater, challenged traditional dance forms and expanded the boundaries of the art form. This comprehensive sourcebook delves into the making of Tanztheater, providing an in-depth examination of Bausch's creative process and the profound impact she had on the world of dance.

Origins and Influences

Bausch's artistic roots trace back to the German expressionist movement, known as *Ausdruckstanz*, which emphasized the expression of inner emotions through physical movement. She also drew inspiration from diverse sources, including folklore, ritual, and mythology, which influenced the symbolic and narrative elements of her work.

The Wuppertal Dance Theater: A Crucible for Innovation

In 1973, Bausch founded the Wuppertal Dance Theater, which became a hub for her groundbreaking experimentation. The company, composed of both dancers and actors, allowed Bausch to explore the integration of movement, speech, and music. The Wuppertal Dance Theater became a renowned platform for the development and dissemination of *Tanztheater*.

The Creative Process

Bausch's creative process was highly collaborative, involving improvisational exercises and group discussions. She often began with specific themes or ideas, which she then developed with her dancers through a process of experimentation and exploration. Improvisation played a crucial role in her work, allowing dancers to delve into their own physicality and emotions.

Signature Features of *Tanztheater*

- **Physicality and Emotionality:** Bausch's choreography emphasized the connection between physical movement and emotional expression. Dancers were encouraged to explore their bodies and tap into their own experiences, resulting in performances that were both raw and deeply moving.

- **Narrative and Symbolism:** Tanztheater often incorporated elements of storytelling and symbolism, exploring themes such as love, loss, and the human condition. Bausch's work was known for its open-ended and multifaceted narratives, leaving space for interpretation and audience engagement.
- **Ritualistic and Mythological Elements:** Bausch frequently incorporated elements of ritual and mythology into her work, creating a sense of the sacred and the timeless. Her choreography often drew inspiration from ancient rituals and myths, evoking a deeper sense of connection and universality.
- **Site-Specific Performance:** Bausch was known for her site-specific performances, which were created for specific locations and tailored to the unique characteristics of each venue. These performances often engaged with the history, architecture, and surroundings of the performance space.

Global Impact and Legacy

Pina Bausch's work has had a profound impact on the world of dance and performance art. Her innovative approach to movement and storytelling has inspired countless choreographers and dancers around the globe.

Tanztheater has become a recognized and respected genre, expanding the possibilities of dance as an expressive and transformative art form.

The Pina Bausch Sourcebook: A Valuable Resource

This comprehensive sourcebook provides a wealth of information for those interested in Pina Bausch and her groundbreaking work. It includes:

- A detailed chronology of Bausch's life and career
- An in-depth analysis of her choreographic style and influences
- Interviews with dancers and collaborators who worked with Bausch
- A selection of essays and articles exploring the various aspects of her work
- An extensive bibliography and filmography

The Pina Bausch Sourcebook is an essential resource for dance enthusiasts, scholars, and anyone interested in the history and development of contemporary dance. It offers a unique window into the creative mind and revolutionary spirit of one of the most influential choreographers of our time.

Pina Bausch's legacy continues to shape the world of dance and performance art. Her pioneering work in Tanztheater pushed the boundaries of artistic expression and expanded our understanding of what dance could be. The Pina Bausch Sourcebook is a testament to the enduring power of her vision and serves as an invaluable resource for those seeking to delve deeper into the world of this visionary choreographer.



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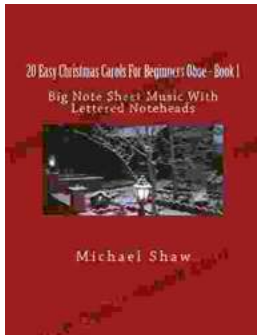
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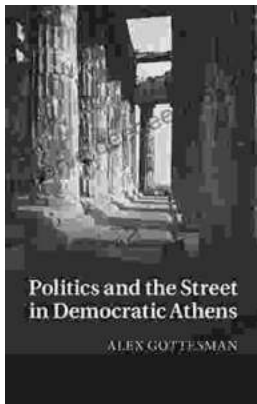
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