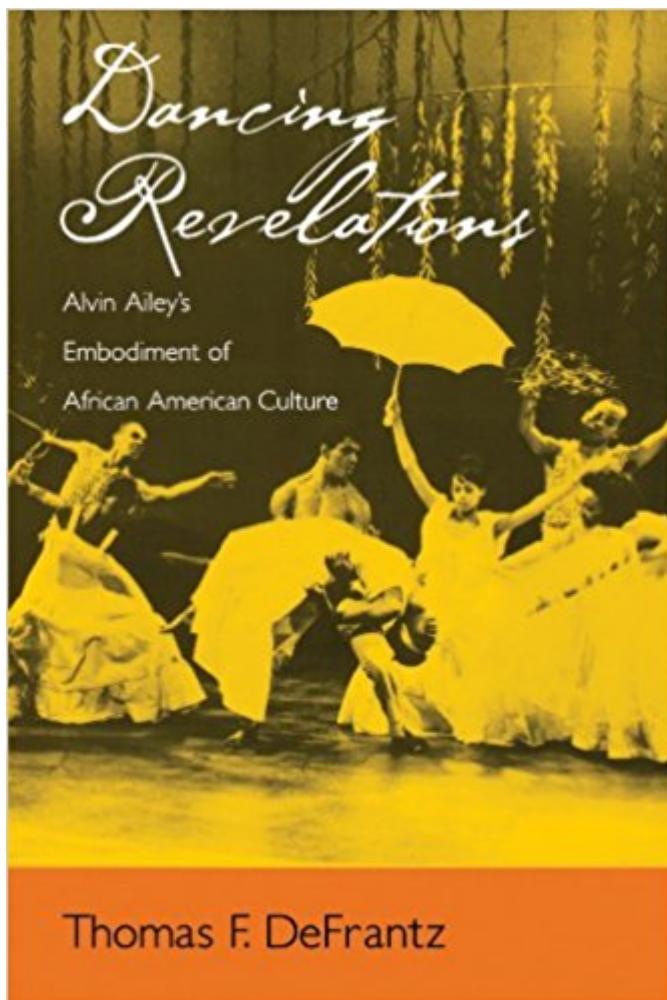


The book was found

# Dancing Revelations: Alvin Ailey's Embodiment Of African American Culture



## Synopsis

In the early 1960s, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater was a small, multi-racial company of dancers that performed the works of its founding choreographer and other emerging artists. By the late 1960s, the company had become a well-known African American artistic group closely tied to the Civil Rights struggle. In *Dancing Revelations*, Thomas DeFrantz chronicles the troupe's journey from a small modern dance company to one of the premier institutions of African American culture. He not only charts this rise to national and international renown, but also contextualizes this progress within the civil rights, women's rights, and gay rights struggles of the late 20th century. DeFrantz examines the most celebrated Ailey dances, including *Revelations*, drawing on video recordings of Ailey's dances, published interviews, oral histories, and his own interviews with former Ailey company dancers. Through vivid descriptions and beautiful illustrations, DeFrantz reveals the relationship between Ailey's works and African American culture as a whole. He illuminates the dual achievement of Ailey as an artist and as an arts activist committed to developing an African American presence in dance. He also addresses concerns about how dance performance is documented, including issues around spectatorship and the display of sexuality, the relationship of Ailey's dances to civil rights activism, and the establishment and maintenance of a successful, large-scale Black Arts institution. Throughout *Dancing Revelations*, DeFrantz illustrates how Ailey combined elements of African dance with motifs adapted from blues, jazz, and Broadway to choreograph his dances. By re-interpreting these tropes of black culture in his original and well-received dances, DeFrantz argues that Ailey played a significant role in defining the African American cultural canon in the twentieth century. As the first book to examine the cultural sources and cultural impact of Ailey's work, *Dancing Revelations* is an important contribution to modern dance history and criticism as well as African-American studies.

## Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 61034th edition (February 2, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0195301714

ISBN-13: 978-0195301717

Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 0.9 x 5.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #938,411 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #92 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Dance #99 in Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Modern #160 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Arts & Literature > Dancers

## Customer Reviews

"In *Dancing Revelations: Alvin Ailey's Embodiment of African American Culture*, Thomas F. DeFrantz sets out to provide an appraisal of one of the most important figures in the short history of American modern dance, as well as a 'stabilizing narrative' of his work. The result is an impeccable piece of dance scholarship--one that achieves its objectives and affirms Ailey's contribution to the African-American cultural canon...Dance students, scholars, and Ailey enthusiasts will all value this groundbreaking study."--*Times Literary Supplement*"*Dancing Revelations* is an enjoyable read, not only for those concerned with Ailey's dances as they relate to larger struggles within American society, but for anyone who loves the art and artist."--*Dance Magazine*"DeFrantz's study...is not the first book about the protean Ailey, who was born in hardscrabble Texas in 1931 and died in 1989 after creating close to 80 works. But it is perhaps the most comprehensive, combining biography, criticism, the analysis of dance criticism, and a sort of corporate history, siting the now firmly established Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in the international cultural landscape."--*Village Voice*

Thomas DeFrantz earned degrees from Yale, the City University of New York, and the Performance Studies Department of New York University. He organized the dance history program at the Ailey School, and is editor of *Dancing Many Drums: Excavations in African American Dance*. His writings have appeared in the *Encyclopedia of African American Culture and History*, and the *Village Voice*. Also a performer and choreographer, DeFrantz has taught at NYU and Stanford University. He is currently Associate Professor of Theater Arts at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

excellent condition !!!! Great shipping!!!! Great seller!!! Awesome shipping wrap!!! I was scared to buy, but when it came in I was happy with my purchase.

As expected.

Fast shipping, cheap price, product was the quality I was expecting if not better. Thanks!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Dancing Revelations: Alvin Ailey's Embodiment of African American Culture Prentice Alvin (The Tales of Alvin Maker, Book 3) (Tales of Alvin Maker (Audio)) Alvin Journeyman (Tales of Alvin Maker, Book 4) (Tales of Alvin Maker (Audio)) Revelations: The Autobiography of Alvin Ailey African: African Recipes - The Very Best African Cookbook (African recipes, African cookbook, African cook book, African recipe, African recipe book) Modern Bodies: Dance and American Modernism from Martha Graham to Alvin Ailey Alvin Ailey: A Life In Dance Alvin Ailey, Jr.: A Life in Dance Seventh Son (Tales of Alvin Maker, Book 1) (Tales of Alvin Maker (Audio)) Horton, Alvin's Creating Japanese Gardens by Horton, Alvin published by Ortho Books [Paperback] (1989) Swing Dancing: Put on Your Dancing Shoes and Get With Hip-Swinging, Toe-Tapping Swing Dancing Bone, Breath, and Gesture: Practices of Embodiment Volume 1 (Bone, Breath, & Gesture) (Vol 1) Bhakti and Embodiment: Fashioning Divine Bodies and Devotional Bodies in Krsna Bhakti (Routledge Hindu Studies Series) Groundworks: Narratives of Embodiment Right to Ride: Streetcar Boycotts and African American Citizenship in the Era of Plessy v. Ferguson (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture) Self-Taught: African American Education in Slavery and Freedom (The John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture) A Young Dancer: The Life of an Ailey Student African Masks Coloring Book: A Coloring Book Featuring Over 30 Images Inspired By Traditional African Masks,Cultural History,Folk Art Coloring Book,African Art Decor African Rhythm and African Sensibility: Aesthetics and Social Action in African Musical Idioms A Kitchen in Tunisia: Tunisian Recipes from North Africa (Tunisian Recipes,Tunisian Cookbook, Tunisian Cooking, Tunisian Food, African Recipes, African Cookbook, African Cooking Book 1)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)