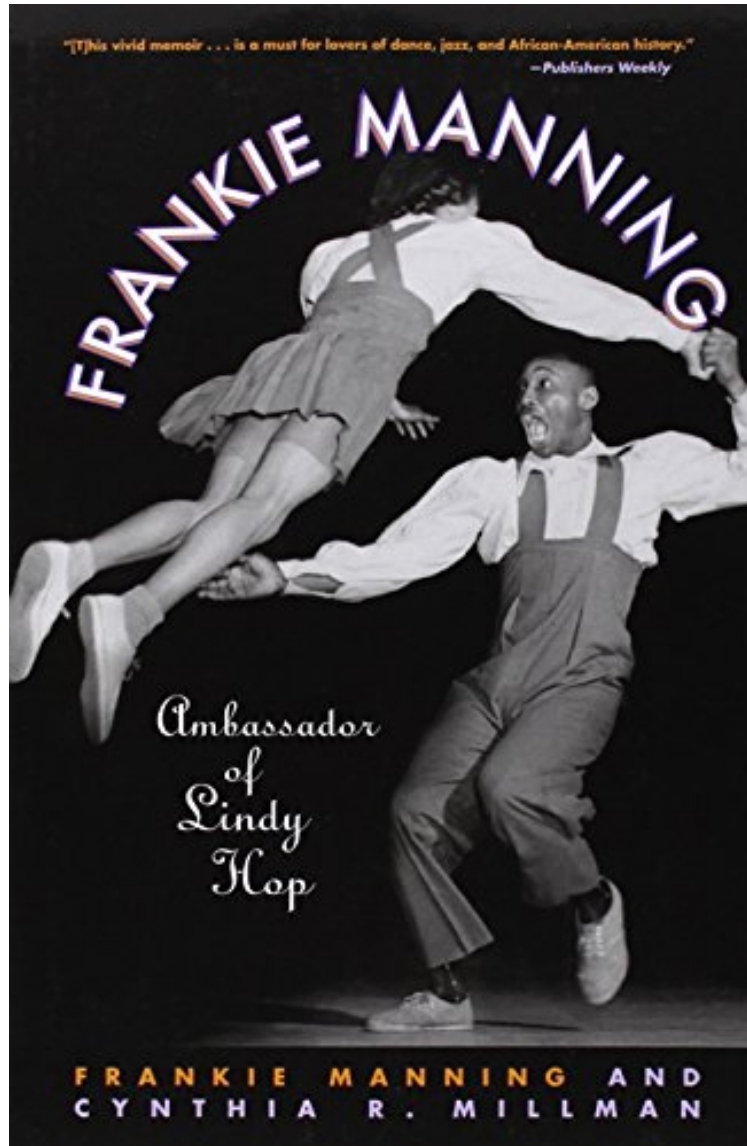


[Download] Frankie Manning: Ambassador of Lindy Hop

Frankie Manning: Ambassador of Lindy Hop

Frankie Manning, Cynthia Millman
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Frankie Manning, Cynthia Millman : Frankie Manning: Ambassador of Lindy Hop before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Frankie Manning: Ambassador of Lindy Hop:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well written, fun.By JPLI'm a swing dancer (lindy hopper) and this book was so helpful and interesting. I didn't know about a lot of the origins of phrases we use now, or realize that certain people knew each other. The writing style is friendly and engaging; I would probably enjoy this book even if I weren't a dancer.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. More than a book about danceBy Larry A.

Petersen I was fortunate to have met Frankie twice before I read the book. This gave me the face and voice to put the words to. As I read, it was as if Frankie was there talking to me with all the wit, humor and charm he has in person. Frankie's excitement in telling his stories makes you wish you could have been there with him. Frankie does a wonderful job of taking you through his life experiences in a way that you just can't put the book down. For me the book is about much more than dancing Lindy Hop. It's about how to live your life which is finding your passion and becoming the best, not to become famous or rich, but because it gives you purpose and that gives others inspiration. Thanks for putting Frankie's life into words. He is someone I wish my kids, grand kids and all future generations could have met. I hope this book soon becomes a movie so all the world can once again see Frankie Manning on the dance floor. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. If you Love Lindy Swing...you will love this book. By Eileen Ewing This is a book every Lindy Swing Dancer should read. If you love Lindy, you should know the history, and most of all, know who Frankie Manning is!!!! I've bought one for each of my dance helpers as gifts of thank you. I got mine the day it was released!

In the early days of swing dancing, Frankie Manning stood out for his moves and his innovative routines. This is his autobiography, recalling how his first years of dancing as a teenager at Harlem's Savoy Ballroom led to his becoming chief choreographer and a lead dancer for 'Whitey's Lindy Hoppers'.

From Publishers Weekly Frankie Manning spread swing dancing's popularity throughout the world while touring with Whitey's Lindy Hoppers in the 1930s and '40s. Dance writer and swing dancer Millman conducted extensive interviews with Manning for a vivid account of his career. Manning became a star in Harlem's popular Savoy Ballroom with his unique style, including dancing at a sharp angle to the ground like a track runner, speed and musicality. In a dance competition, Manning astonished the crowd with the first-ever Lindy aerial, or air step (where the man sends his partner flying). Later Manning toured with jazz greats such as Duke Ellington and Count Basie, and performed in several films, including *Everybody Sings with Judy Garland*. After a long hiatus from dancing, he was a consultant for Spike Lee's *Malcolm X* and coached a new generation of dancers in the swing dance revival of the '80s and '90s. While the first-person accounts of Manning's life capture his vibrancy, humor and charm, the narrative is interrupted by short sections of historical notes; their formality is at odds with Manning's ease and charisma. Still, this vivid memoir by one of swing dancing's innovators and stars is a must for lovers of dance, jazz and African-American history. 36 bw illus. (May) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "A poet of the dance floor. This book is a must read for any one who loves the dance, amateur or professional. What a life he has lived, and thank God he remembers it all!" Bette Midler, student and fan "The first-person accounts of Manning's life capture his vibrancy, humor and charm...this vivid memoir by one of swing dancing's innovators and stars is a must for lovers of dance, jazz and African-American history." --Publishers Weekly "Manning's personality comes across via his vivid descriptions of dance contests, the excitement of choreographing, and the Lindy's decline and revival. He also discusses the racism he faced in the U.S. Army during World War II and while on tour...This is an interesting and significant piece of the swing dance record valuable for its oral history. Recommended for academic libraries with dance history collections." --Library Journal "Sit down with the book and you will feel you've sat down with Frankie in person to hear the wonderful story of his life." --Swing Dancer Magazine "Manning has aged gracefully in spirit...sounding likeable and constantly refraining from grinding axes or settling scores, in what is a very readable memoir." --j.b. spins "Frankie Manning has now emerged to share the most informative creative insight to date...sensitively co-written by Cynthia Millman, the book throws new light on broad swathes of original jazz dance practices...FRANKIE MANNING chronicles the dedication, rehearsals, and hard-earned technical virtuosity of a dance form often seen as reckless exuberance. Unlike most writing on the subject, Frankie's detailed acknowledgment of his various Linda partners subtly guides the reader to the dance's reciprocally rhythmic defining character. Frankie's disciplining of his body clearly matches the determination of his intellect that through telling his story significantly enlarges our understanding of 20th century popular dance." --Dancing Times "On the crowded dance floor of Harlem's Savoy Ballroom, a nimble young New Yorker named Frankie Manning found his calling. Manning became a swing dancer who helped refine and popularize the Lindy Hop -- that remarkable, airborne style of terpsichorean Americana -- and go on to teach it to eager dancers his grandkids' age. In this good-humored, oral history-style autobiography, Manning covers a jumpin' and jivin' career that won't quit. (The 93-year old dancer recently showed off his classy moves at Seattle's Century Ballroom.) Making "guest appearances" here are many great dancers and musicians from the Swing Era and beyond. And among the many delightful photos is a publicity glossy of star hooper Bill "Bojangles" Robinson inscribed, "To Frankie, The Greatest Lindy Hopper of Them All." --The Seattle Times "Assembled from interviews Millman conducted with Manning over 13 years, joins Norma Miller's *Singin' at the Savoy*, written with Evette Jensen (also published by Temple, 1996), in recounting how some African American social dances gained international renown...Well-chosen photographs evoke the era and confirm the vibrancy of the dance forms. Appendixes providing a Manning time line, biographical sketches of Lindy hoppers, and a listing of swing dance resources greatly enhance the volume... Summing Up: Recommended." Choice "An engaging narrative

with a dose of Linda lore." --Dance Teacher"The timeline of Frankie's life, great photos, and an extensive listing of swing resources will keep you glued through the last page." --Dance Spirit"This is an important book for anyone who is interested in lindy hop or the swing era...If you're a lindy hopper, you should own this book!" --Swingjazzblues"The book serves as an insightful social history of the 20th century and the American vernacular jazz dance - a gem for anyone interested in this history of dance...Manning and Millman's book is not only a gift to the contemporary Lindy Hop scene, but a must-read for all dancers." --Dance Today

About the AuthorLindy hopper Frankie Manning won a 1989 Tony Award for his choreography in *Black and Blue*, was honored by the National Endowment for the Arts with a National Heritage Fellowship, and served as a consultant for and danced in Spike Lee's *Malcolm X* and Debbie Allen's *Stompin' at the Savoy*. Frankie's choreographic contributions to the lindy, his professional dance career with Whitey's Lindy Hoppers and the Congaroo Dancers, and his vital role in the swing dance revival have been widely chronicled in the news media, books, and documentaries, including Ken Burns's *Jazz* and an ABC News 20/20 profile. Now in his nineties, Frankie travels the world teaching the Lindy hop and sharing his riveting memories of dancing through the swing era.

Cynthia R. Millman taught dance and performed for over twenty-five years, including five years with the Big Apple Lindy Hoppers. She has studied and partnered with Frankie, and lectures with him on the history of the Lindy. A librarian at The Town School in Manhattan, Cynthia has contributed articles to *Dance Magazine* and *The International Encyclopedia of Dance*, and has served as a dance consultant on several documentaries.