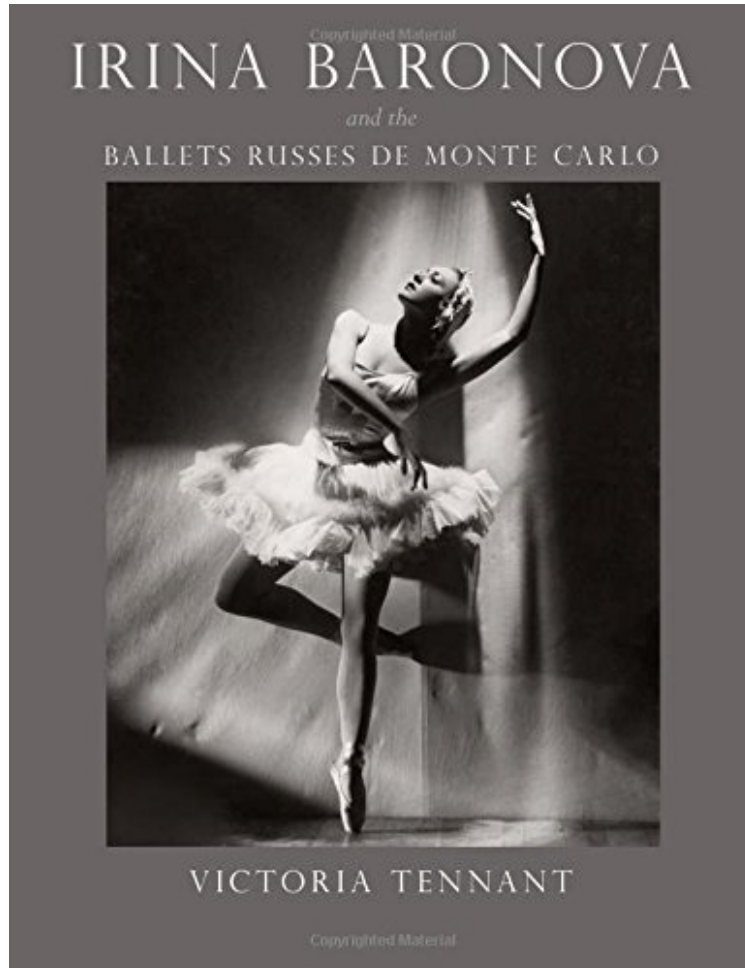


(Free read ebook) Irina Baronova and the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo

Irina Baronova and the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo

Victoria Tennant

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Victoria Tennant : Irina Baronova and the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Irina Baronova and the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Better times and better people.By AtticusA must for all balletomanes. Baronova's life was extraordinary, as the treasure trove of photographs attests. My only quibble (and it's a small one) was too much text from her autobiography being repurposed here. However, her beautiful spirit shines through, thanks to the devoted work of her daughter. Brava!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Portrait of an Artist and an EraBy John B. TiptonThis is a wonderful portrait of a woman and a view of both an era and the world of ballet when America knew almost nothing about this art form. Perhaps the best thing I can say is that I have little interest in the ballet itself AND I still found the book fascinating. It gives the reader a wonderful insider's view of a very special world, not just the intense hot-house world of dancers and choreographers, but also the artists, writers and the many emigres from Czarist Russia for whom the ballet became the center of their lives. But you also

gain enormous respect for an artist who was also a mother, from the viewpoint of one of her daughters, who just so happened to go on to become a distinguished actress. The pictures are sumptuous and the writing fluid and charming. This is that rare combination of a "page-turner" that is also a gorgeous coffee-table book. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Enjoy this burst of joy, beauty and energy of a life well lived. By John Gordon For enthusiast of beauty and excellence, an exciting read for both its rare transformative ability to bring you to an historical place and an immediate present. A conversation that you will have with the author and, undoubtedly, after reading, with your friends. Very fine indeed. Superbly documented and written.

In the 1930s and 40s, the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo toured the United States and the world, introducing many to ballet as an art form, while spreading the enduring image of the ballerina as an embodiment of feminine grace and sophistication. This sumptuous, illustrated history tells the story of the rise of modern ballet and its popularity through the life story of one of ballets most glamorous stars, Irina Baronova (1919-2008), prima ballerina for the Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo and later for Ballet Theatre in New York. Drawing on letters, correspondence, oral histories, and interviews, Baronova's daughter, the actress Victoria Tennant, warmly recounts Baronova's dramatic life, from her earliest aspirations to her grueling time on tour to her later years in Australia as a pioneer of the art. She begins with the Baronov family's flight from Russia during the Revolution, which led them to Romania and later Paris, where at the age of thirteen, Baronova became a star, chosen by the legendary George Balanchine to join the Ballets Russes, where she danced the lead in Swan Lake. Tennant provides an intimate account of Baronova's life as a dancer and rare behind-the-scenes stories of life on the road with the stars of the company. Spectacular photographs, a mix of archival images and family snapshots, offer many rare views of rehearsals, costumes, set designs, and the dancers themselves both at their most dazzling and in their most everyday. The story of Irina Baronova is also the story of the rise of ballet in America thanks to the Ballets Russes, who brought the magisterial beauty and star power of dance to big cities and small towns alike. Irina Baronova and the Ballet Russes de Monte Carlo offers a unique perspective on this history, sure to be treasured by dance patrons and aspiring stars.

My friend Irina Baronova was a legendary Baby Ballerina of the Ballets Russes and an ambassador of classical ballet in America, but this book shows us the kind, funny, and hardworking woman behind the legend. She was a total pro and an elegant human being. If it's possible, I'm more in awe than ever.