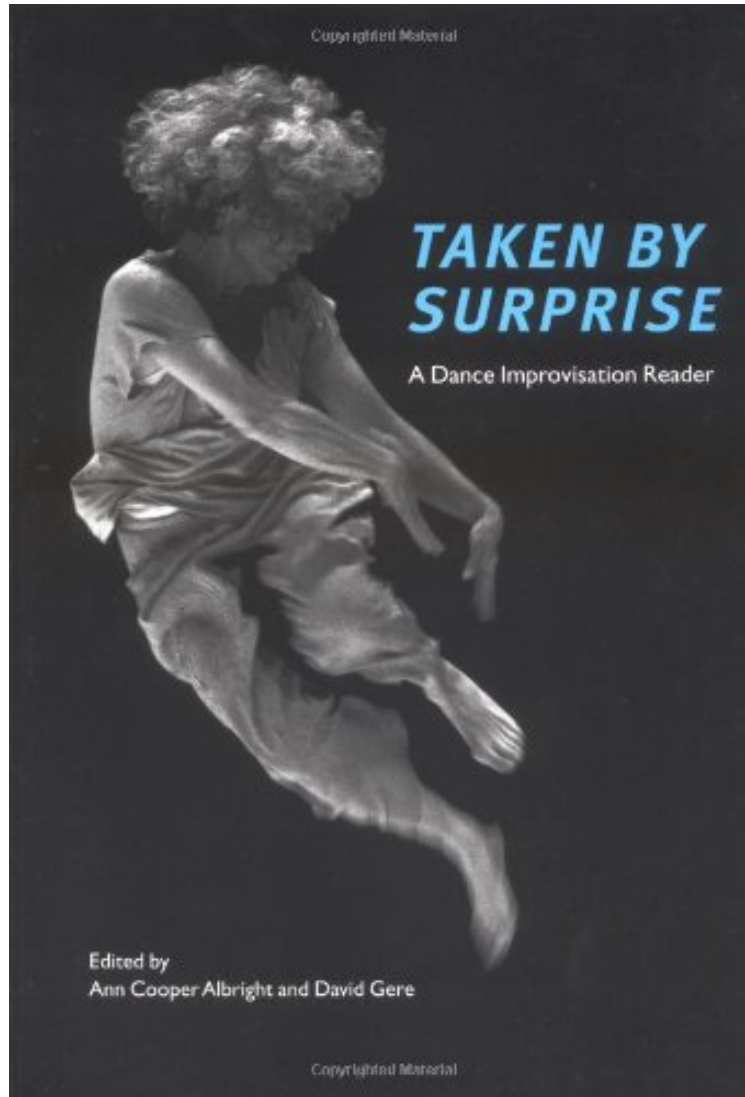


(Ebook free) Taken by Surprise: A Dance Improvisation Reader

## Taken by Surprise: A Dance Improvisation Reader

*From Wesleyan*

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**From Wesleyan : Taken by Surprise: A Dance Improvisation Reader** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Taken by Surprise: A Dance Improvisation Reader:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This collection of essays is a wonderful read for any movement practitioner. By Sarah This collection of essays is a wonderful read for any movement practitioner. Taken by Surprise examines improvisational movement as a technique, a true experience of phenomenology, that bringing forth emergence in every encounter. These essays harness an appreciation for Contact Improvisation's history, the dynamic relationship of the body and mind, collaboration with others and the art of staying present in each moment. Staying present becomes one of life's greatest gifts. In the essay Against Improvisation, Victoria Marks shares, I notice that such

things are never the same when you go back and do them again. A choreographed dance is a living thing. It is a place where things happen. When you are dancing, if you are alive, you are improvising. You can make choices and observe the way the dance is different this time, than ever before. A dance is like a house. Its a place in which things happen. You can go back to the house, but you cant occupy it in the same way you did earlier (pg. 139).Whether you improv in the studio, the office or with your family during uncomfortable Thanksgiving dinners, this book will both enrich and give perspective to lifes expected and unexpected moments.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book is an excellent source for information and enjoyed the exploration and improvising ...By CustomerTaken By Surprise: A Dance Improvisation is a wealth of knowledge of improvisation through the lens of many artists. The writing is technical but comprehensive and gave me a new view on improvisation in performance, life and culturally. This book is an excellent source for information and enjoyed the exploration and improvising of the topics introduced in each chapter.I thoroughly enjoyed reading Improvisation and The Tap Dance Challenge by Constance Vailis Hill. She states, It is the dancers willingness to stay open to the possibilities of what the next moment may bring that allows the improvisational moment to stay alive and to thrive. This moment, Albert Murray so eloquently explains, is the moment of greatest opportunity the heroic momentwhen you establish your identitywrite your signature on the epidermis of actualitycome to terms with the void. (pg. 100)0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Jane QuigleyInspiring ideas, insightful explorations, deep understanding.

This collection of classic and new writings on dance improvisation brings together 21 essays by prominent dancers, scholars and historians. Until now, discussion of improvisation in dance has focused mainly on the postmodern form known as contact improv. Taken by Surprise reflects the development of improvisation as a compositional and performance mode in a wide variety of dance contexts, including dance traditions from around the globe, such as Yoruban masked dance, Indian Bharatanatyam and flamenco.The book also includes a thoughtful look at computer-aided choreography, a discussion of recent innovations in tap dancing and a section on improvisation in everyday life. Combining primary sources with critical analysis, Taken by Surprise will serve as an indispensable companion to studio work in improvisation, and a much-needed supplement to twentieth century dance histories. CONTRIBUTORS: Ann Cooper Albright, Sally Banes, Bruce Curtis, Kent Despain, Margaret Thompson Drewal, Simone Forti, Susan Leigh Foster, David Gere, Raymond W. Gibbs, JR, Michelle Heffner Hayes, Carmela Hermann, Constance Valis Hill, Rachel Kaplan, Maura Keefe, Victoria Marks, Avanthi Meduri, Steve Paxton, Janice Ross, Karen Schaffman, Nancy Stark Smith, Ellen Webb, Ruth Zaporah.

The concept of improvisation is historically associated with jazz, comedy, or theater, not dance... Among the authors represented are Susan Leigh Foster, Sally Banes, and Janice Ross, as well as dance notable such as Simone Forti, Steve Paxton, and Victoria Marks... best suited to large dance and performing arts collections.Library Journal