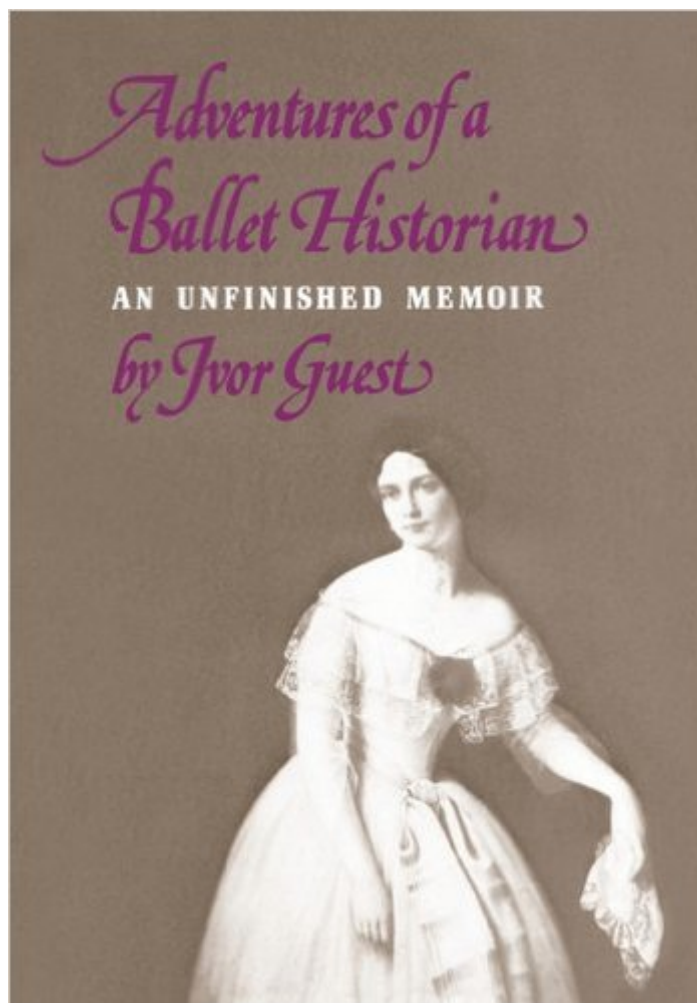


The book was found

Adventures Of A Ballet Historian (Unfinished Memoir)



Synopsis

A historian's task is a voyage of discovery, and in these personal reminiscences Ivor Guest allows the reader to share the romance of recreating times past. Since his first published article appeared in the 1940s he has vastly expanded and enriched our knowledge of ballet in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries through more than a score of books, many of them definitive works, that are a rare blend of scrupulous scholarship and readability. The story of his involvement in the world of ballet is a romance in itself. When he was drawn to the study of ballet history, comparatively little serious research had been done, and he found himself working in virtually virgin soil - the fulfillment of an historian's dream. The Paris Opera, with its library and archives, became his mecca, where he returned year after year to unearth the material on which were based his classic chronicles of the French ballet. In time his pre-eminence was to be recognised when he - an Englishman - was commissioned to write the official history of the Paris Opera Ballet. For him all this was a labour of love - almost in a literal sense, for as he reconstructed the lives of long-dead ballerinas through his patient research and deductive sleuthing, he fell under their spell like a man in love. His biographies are written with an easy style that conceals the toil that went into them, but in this book he tells of his quests for characters who were often maddeningly elusive, such as his 'first love', Fanny Cerrito. The account of his search for the date of her death is told with a touch of fine comedy, and culminates in the discovery of her descendants. These 'Adventures' are concerned mainly with Ivor Guest's work as a writer, but this is by no means the whole story. He played a crucial part in the creation of Frederick Ashton's 'La Fille mal gardée', discovering the early scores from which the music for this evergreen ballet was adapted, and his marriage to Ann Hutchinson led him up new paths as they combined their talents, hers as a specialist in dance notation, to recreate several choreographic gems from the past, including Fanny Elssler's famous Cachucha. And, to emphasise that his life is not all spent at his desk or in dusty archives, he tells the story of his involvement with the Royal Academy of Dance, as Chairman of its Executive Committee from 1969, when it was on the verge of bankruptcy, to the 1980s when it was riding high as the largest and most vital association of ballet teachers in the world. These reminiscences illuminate an aspect of the dance world that seldom comes into the limelight, yet is of great importance for its cultural significance. Scholars and writers who lift the curtain on the past work quietly in the background. This book tells the story of one of them, who in the field of dance scholarship is internationally recognised for his work.

Book Information

Series: Unfinished Memoir

Hardcover: 131 pages

Publisher: Dance Horizons; 1st edition (March 22, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0903102692

ISBN-13: 978-0903102698

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: Be the first to review this item

Best Sellers Rank: #1,068,418 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #22 in Books > Arts &

Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Notation #54 in Books > Arts & Photography >

Performing Arts > Dance > Choreography #311 in Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts

> Dance > Classical

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

Adventures of a Ballet Historian (Unfinished Memoir) Jose Limon: An Unfinished Memoir (Studies in Dance History) Brave Cloelia: Retold from the Account in The History of Early Rome by the Roman Historian Titus Livius Exploring Big Historical Data: The Historian's Macroscope The Historian Who is the Historian? The Information-Literate Historian The Historian's Craft: Reflections on the Nature and Uses of History and the Techniques and Methods of Those Who Write It. Truth and Fiction in The Da Vinci Code: A Historian Reveals What We Really Know about Jesus, Mary Magdalene, and Constantine Ballet Beautiful: Transform Your Body and Gain the Strength, Grace, and Focus of a Ballet Dancer The Secret of the Ballet Book: (Kids Fantasy Books, Ballerina Fiction) (Kids Mystery, Girls Books Ages 9-12, Ballet Stories, Dance Books, Kids Books, Kids Fantasy Books Ages 9-12) Inside Ballet Technique: Separating Anatomical Fact from Fiction in the Ballet Class The Ballet Companion: A Dancer's Guide to the Technique, Traditions, and Joys of Ballet Ballet 101: A Complete Guide to Learning and Loving the Ballet Rebel on Pointe: A Memoir of Ballet and Broadway Sagrada Familia: Gaudi's Unfinished Masterpiece Geometry, Construction and Site Unfinished: Thoughts Left Visible Dolly: My Life and Other Unfinished Business The Unfinished Reformation: What Unites and Divides Catholics and Protestants After 500 Years Confederates in the Attic: Dispatches from the Unfinished Civil War

[Dmca](#)