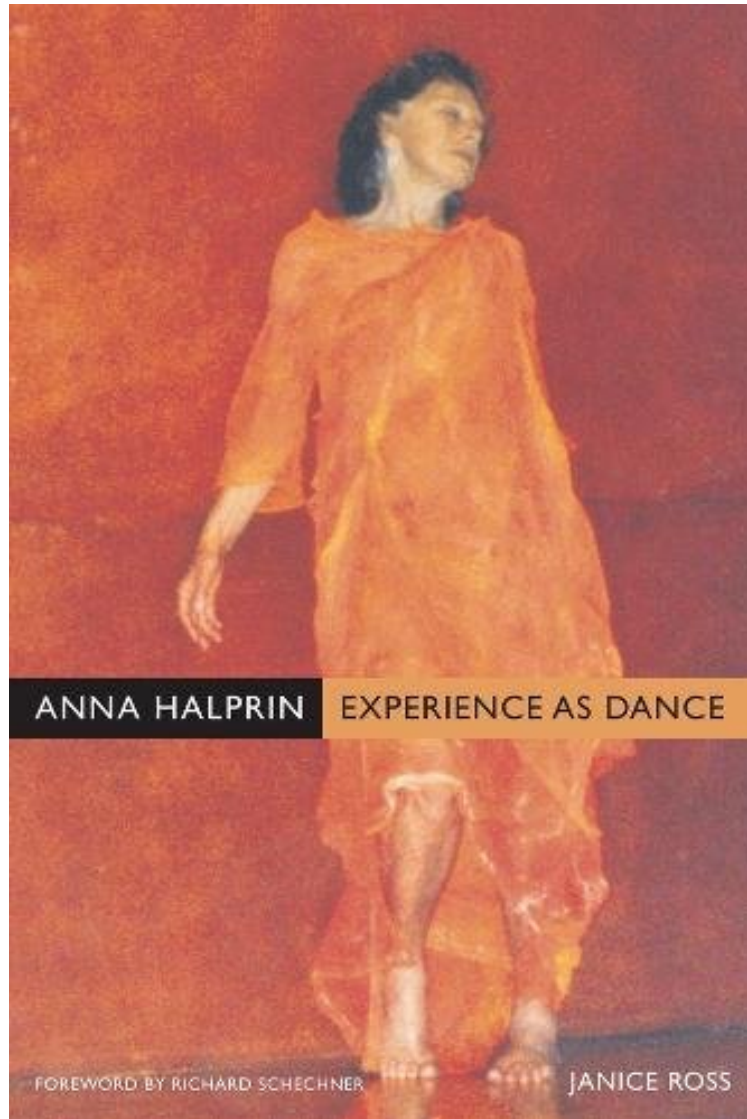


Anna Halprin: Experience as Dance

Janice Ross

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Janice Ross : Anna Halprin: Experience as Dance before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Anna Halprin: Experience as Dance:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I highly recommend and at such a great valued price. By Customer everything else is perfect. Neighbors loved it too. I think Perhaps I need one more. Does the job fine. They are ok, but had much better I have this setup at my main TV to switch between my HTPC, PS4 and PS3, and it works fine. I can't detect any quality difference between directly plugging them into the TV and using this, so that's good. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. An Admiring Story of a Life Well Lived By John Matlock Anna Halprin

is now 82 years old. Retirement - 'I have so many dances to do yet.' And dance she does, in her own way, her own style, dancing based on a long, long lifetime of breaking the mold of tradition. This book is an admiring biography of Anna and even more a story of the dances she has performed. Ms. Ross is Associate Professor of Drama at Stanford University and the author of several books on dance. She had virtually unlimited access to Anna, her husband Lawrence, and their extensive files, making this essentially an approved biography. It is clear that Ms. Ross admires Anna a great deal. Not only as a dancer and teacher of dance, but as a woman, a human being that has led a life of exploration of finding new grounds, of struggle against cancer. Her book reflects this admiration. It reports on a life well lived.

Anna Halprin pioneered what became known as postmodern dance, creating work that was key to unlocking the door to experimentation in theater, music, Happenings, and performance art. This first comprehensive biography examines Halprin's fascinating life in the context of American culture in particular popular culture and the West Coast as a center of artistic experimentation from the Beats through the Hippies. Janice Ross chronicles Halprin's long, remarkable career, beginning with the dancers' grandparents who escaped Eastern European pogroms and came to the United States at the turn of the last century and ending with the present day, when Halprin continues to defy boundaries between artistic genres as well as between participants and observers. As she follows Halprin's development from youth into old age, Ross describes in engrossing detail the artist's roles as dancer, choreographer, performance theorist, community leader, cancer survivor, healer, wife, and mother. Halprin's friends and acquaintances include a number of artists who charted the course of postmodern performance. Among her students were Trisha Brown, Simone Forti, Yvonne Rainer, Meredith Monk, and Robert Morris. Ross brings to life the vital sense of experimentation during this period. She also illuminates the work of Anna Halprin's husband, the important landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, in the context of his wife's environmental dance work. Using Halprin's dance practices and works as her focus, Ross explores the effects of danced stories on the bodies who perform them. The result is an innovative consideration of how experience becomes performance as well as a masterful account of an extraordinary life.

From the Inside Flap "When I learned about improvisation from Anna, it was like receiving the other half of the hemisphere. Without improvisation I would not have developed the work that I'm doing." Trisha Brown "Anna Halprin who, with her husband, the architect Lawrence Halprin, is considered to be the wellspring of what we call postmodern dance has spent most of her long life shattering rules, conventions, expectations, and long-cherished ideals like so many porcelain teacups. . . . In this new cultural history and intellectual biography, Janice Ross has unscrolled a story with her subject's full collaboration that continuously reveals and surprises. It is a groundbreaking achievement in dance scholarship, commensurate with the work of Sally Banes, the scholar of postmodern dance to whom this book is affectionately dedicated." Mindy Aloff, author of *Dance Anecdotes* "This book is an eye-opener. It is fascinating to learn about the different creative periods in Anna Halprin's life, from her involvement with Jewish identity and culture, dance education, and Bauhaus emigrants in the thirties and forties to her relationship with the Beat poets in San Francisco, her influential summer workshops, and her exploration of ritual and performance from the fifties to the present." Mark Franko, author of *Excursion for Miracles: Paul Sanasardo, Donya Feuer and Studio for Dance (1955-1964)* "Janice Ross has done a masterful job of capturing the life, work, and impact of the little midwestern woman whose influence shaped the dance revolutions of the 1960s and 1970s, and whose greatest accomplishment may have been 'finding dance culture where no one else had looked.' Ross illuminates the West Coast roots of postmodernism, and outlines Halprin's accomplishments as a healer, which are still accruing after more than sixty years." Elizabeth Zimmer, dance critic and editor