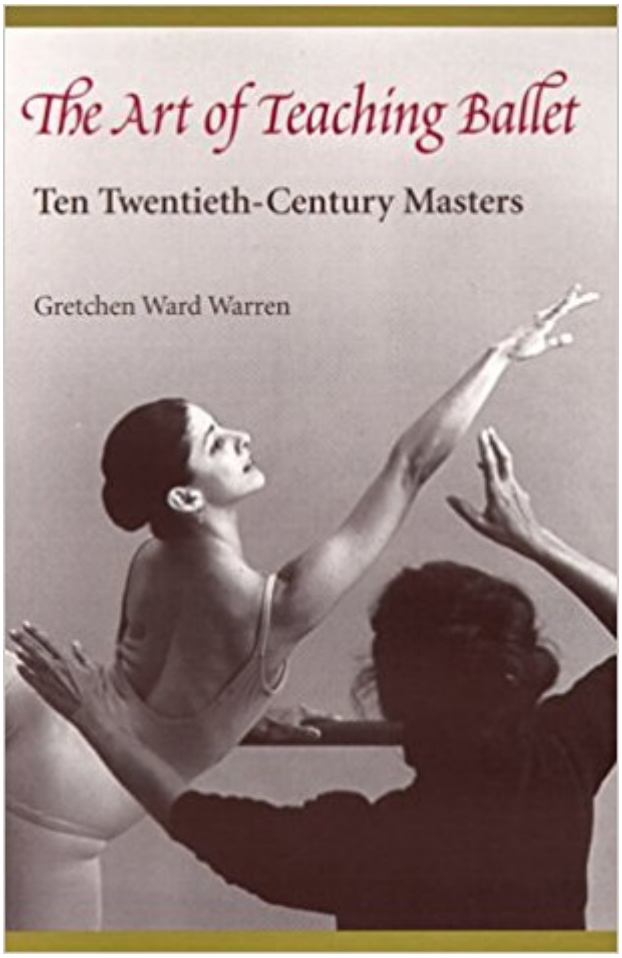
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The Art Of Teaching Ballet: Ten Twentieth-Century Masters



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Synopsis

Interviews with ten 20th-century ballet masters,combining philosophical and pedagogical discussions with sample classroom exercises and photos.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Warren (dance, Univ. of South Florida) is an arts commentator, a former soloist with the Pennsylvania Ballet, and author of the comprehensive Classical Ballet Technique (LJ 1/90). She notes that many books have been written about famous choreographers and dancers but that little has been written about outstanding teachers. Yet the lifeblood of ballet is pedagogy, and the performances in which audiences delight are a result of the dancers' instruction. To better understand the magical transfer of information and artistry, Warren interviewed ten exceptional teachers. They represent different artistic lineages, employ distinctive classroom techniques, and structure a range of varying exercises. Each profile is stimulating, combining philosophical discussion and anecdotal history with sample representative classroom exercises. Ballet teachers will value this addition to the dance literature, and the larger audience of balletomanes will also find it engrossing.Joan Stahl, National Museum of American Art, Washington, D.C.Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"[No one] has covered such broad spectrum of teachers throughout the world...in such a lively, thorough, and engaging fashion." -- Judith Chazin-Bennahum, Society of Dance History Scholars

This is a wonderful addition to the literature on ballet. The auther makes her apologies in the beginning for not being able to include some noteworthiy teachers, but the ones she was able to cover are great. The information provided gives us valuable insight into the aesthetic principles of these great dancers and teachers. This should be useful to all dancers, whether they teach or not. Some very esoteric facts can be found here as well, such as why Balanchine likes the fingers and hands held the way he does and why many don't like it that way. I had taken some classes with a Mr. Schabel and discovered his claim to fame in these pages. The Great Jean Babilee is even discused. You might also get some good ideas for further reading in this book as I did.

There is not a more thorough, thoughtful book on teaching ballet anywhere. A must for teachers and students. Photos instead of line drawings. In depth explanations with many excellent dancers photographed.

I love this book. Very detailed and readable accounts of great teachers of the 20th century. There are sample classes from the teachers in the back which are very interesting to study. A must have for all aspiring dancers and veteran teachers who need a little inspiration.

Good read for ballet teachers. I wish I had more time to dive into this book. But I read a chapter here and there. I feel like I am there with those master teachers. Great service. I received it on time.

excellent book. This is my second book and I'll give it to my ballet teacher.

Two years ago, we purchased this book for our son for his 16th birthday for several reasons. The major two were that his own ballet teacher -- Larry Long -- was one of the teachers written about in the book. Also, he had taken classes with the author one summer, loved her as a teacher, and continually referred to her previous book -- Classical Ballet Technique. After we purchased the book, he discovered that several teachers with whom he had either taken classes or about whom he had heard were also covered in the book. He enjoyed the book because of the biographies of each of the teachers and because of the descriptions of their techniques and classes. He assumes that if he ever teaches he will enjoy rereading the book to see the information from a different perspective. We, his parents, have enjoyed it because we have little knowledge of the world of ballet and it gave us more insight into it. Of course, our favorite chapter was the one about his teacher as we learned

more of his background, many of the people we knew were mentioned, it gave us greater insight into his teaching style, and the pictures were great. However, the other chapters were very informative and helpful to parents of a serious ballet student. (Since we had no background in ballet, it helped us understand the field a little more.)

Every ballet teacher must own this book. You will gain enormous insight into how 10 master teachers pass on the art of ballet to their students. You may not be drawn to the teaching styles of each teacher but you will learn something from everybody. Each chapter begins with a short essay in which Ms. Warren weaves what she learned from interviewing the master teachers about how they developed their method of teaching with specific accounts of what she observed in their classes. Each chapter concludes with "Classroom Quotes," the order of exercises in a technique class, and the pedagogical lineage of the master teacher. At the end of the book, Ms. Warren includes several exercises constructed by each of the master teachers. For non-teachers, this book will give you renewed appreciation for the work that goes into making a dancer.

This is the most comprehensive collection and explanation of ballet technique available today. Ms. Warren is a ballet scholar of the highest order. I recommend this book to all my serious, older students; it is an invaluable reference book for any serious ballet student or instructor. Every step is fully explained and clearly photographed, demonstrated by professional dancers. A great scholarly and practical book.

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