



Classical Dances and Costumes of India: with an introduction by Ram Gopal

By Kay Ambrose (Author), Ram Gopal (Intro.) & Arnold Haskell (Frwd)

Munshiram Manoharlal Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, India, 2015. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Dust Jacket Condition: New. Reprint. The Classical Dances and Costumes of India by Kay Ambrose steers clear of the twin evils of writing; the learned writing for the learned and the dilettante writing for others of his class. It treats the four classical schools of Indian dance-Bharata Natyam, Kathakali, Kathak and Manipuri-with understanding and objectivity. The reader is provided with a sketch of Indian mythology and music before he is exposed to the dances proper, which are presented in such a manner that none will experience any difficulty in learning the divine and mundane aspects of these schools of dance. The chapter on the costumes of India gives not only the idea of the correct costumes of the particular schools of dance but also of the endless variety and rich colour of Indian costumes. In addition to classical dances, the reader is given a taste of Indian folk dances and dances of Ceylon. The technical sketches more than supplement the text. The reader will not only be able to understand the various dance styles but recognize them while witnessing public performances. A few, if they try hard,...

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