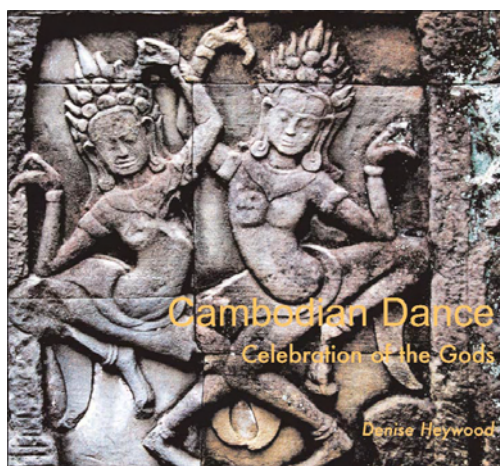




Photo by Philip Jones Griffiths



CAMBODIAN DANCE

Celebration of the Gods

Denise Heywood

Foreword by Princess Buppha Devi, daughter of King Sihanouk

In Cambodia, classical dance is the quintessence of the country's identity. An art form that was religious in origin, its traditions date back more than a thousand years to the great Khmer empire. Dancers performed in the temples at Angkor and were the living embodiment of the celestial dancers carved on the temple walls.

The history of Cambodian dance, the relationship with the dance of Siam, the role of the French in introducing the dancers to the West, the Reamker epic from which many of the dances are drawn, and the stories of dancers who survived the dark period of the Pol Pot regime to revive classical dance today, are all related in this fascinating and beautifully illustrated book.

About the author

Denise Heywood is a lecturer, journalist and photographer who has travelled widely in Southeast Asia. While living for three years in Cambodia she became fascinated by the beauty and meaning of Cambodian dance. As well as being a lecturer for NADFAS and for the British Museum's post-graduate Asian art course, she writes for many art, literary and travel publications and is the author of *Ancient Luang Prabang*.



- Full history of Cambodian Dance
- Richly illustrated throughout
- Lavish costumes in full detail
- The stories behind the dances
- The role of the French introducing the dances to the West, including Rodin's drawings
- Plight of dancers during Cambodia's recent history
- The revival of Cambodian Dance
- Stories of dancers who survived the Pol Pot regime

Book Information

Format

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RIVER BOOKS LONDON

3 Denbigh Road, London W11 2SJ

Tel: 020 7229 6765 Fax: 020 7792 0027

E-mail: chris@newcavendishbooks.co.uk www.riverbooksbk.com

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