Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes: A Journey into the World of Art and Excess



 Diaghilev's Ballets Russes
 by Lynn Garafola

 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 4.1 out of 5

 Language
 : English

 File size
 : 10079 KB

 Text-to-Speech :
 Enabled

 Screen Reader :
 Supported

 Word Wise
 : Enabled

 Print length
 : 574 pages



In the early 20th century, a group of Russian artists, dancers, and musicians revolutionized the world of ballet. Led by the visionary impresario Sergei Diaghilev, the Ballets Russes became a sensation that captivated audiences around the globe.

Diaghilev was a brilliant impresario with an uncanny eye for talent. He brought together some of the most talented artists of the time, including Vaslav Nijinsky, Léon Bakst, and Igor Stravinsky. Together, they created a new kind of ballet that was both visually stunning and emotionally gripping.

The Golden Age of Ballet

The Ballets Russes' performances were marked by their opulence, their innovative choreography, and their groundbreaking use of music. Diaghilev was determined to push the boundaries of what was considered possible in ballet, and he succeeded beyond anyone's wildest dreams. The company's most famous ballets include "The Firebird," "Petrushka," and "The Rite of Spring." These ballets were groundbreaking in their use of rhythm, color, and movement. They also helped to introduce new themes to ballet, such as folklore, paganism, and the subconscious.

Diaghilev: The Man Behind the Magic

Sergei Diaghilev was a complex and fascinating figure. He was a brilliant impresario, but he was also a ruthless tyrant. He demanded perfection from his dancers, and he was often cruel to those who failed to meet his expectations.

Diaghilev's personal life was as tumultuous as his professional life. He was a homosexual in a time when homosexuality was considered a crime. He had a number of lovers, but he never found lasting happiness.

The Legacy of the Ballets Russes

The Ballets Russes disbanded in 1929, but its legacy continues to this day. The company's innovative choreography and groundbreaking use of music helped to shape the development of modern ballet. Many of the company's dancers went on to become stars in their own right, and its ballets are still performed by companies around the world.

Lynn Garafola's book, "Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes," is the definitive account of this extraordinary company. Garafola draws on extensive research to provide a detailed and fascinating look at Diaghilev's life and work. She also provides an insightful analysis of the company's ballets and their impact on the world of dance.

If you are interested in ballet, art, or Russian history, then you will love this book. Lynn Garafola's "Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes" is a must-read for

anyone who wants to understand the golden age of ballet.

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Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn about the extraordinary world of Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes. Free Download your copy of Lynn Garafola's book today!

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About the Author

Lynn Garafola is a dance historian and author. She is a professor of dance at Barnard College and Columbia University. Garafola is the author of several books on dance, including "Diaghilev and the Ballets Russes," "The Making of Modern Dance," and "Legacies of Twentieth-Century Dance."

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