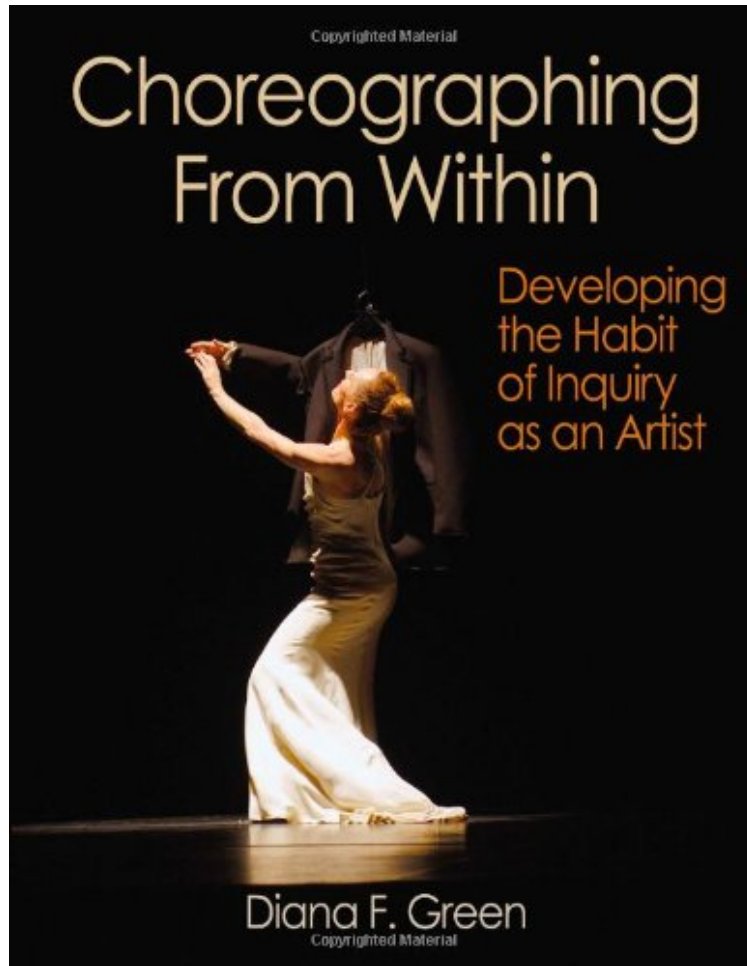


(Download pdf ebook) Choreographing From Within: Developing the Habit of Inquiry as an Artist

Choreographing From Within: Developing the Habit of Inquiry as an Artist

Diana Green

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Diana Green : Choreographing From Within: Developing the Habit of Inquiry as an Artist before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Choreographing From Within: Developing the Habit of Inquiry as an Artist:

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. great tool for teachersBy vhteacherThis book was a great resource for my choreography class. It is a new class I am teaching and this author gave me a great place to start. The chapters are in a logical order and are short enough not be be overwhelming for the reader. The activities are easy to direct and they allow students to explore in a well directed manor. It is easy for them to start with this style of verbal of direction. The assessment tools are also very useful. I am a fan of rubrics and they are already created for you! The photos in the book are nice because they are real. They show real dance students in a choreography class. When I use the book on a

document camera to share with the class, my students like to see photos of students like them. I think it allows them to connect to the movement activity in a realistic way. Overall I was really pleased to find this book. It gave me a great place to start. I foresee many years of use!

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent resource
By Whitney G DuBose
I teach dance in a middle school setting, and I have found this book to be an invaluable resource in my classroom. The author breaks down the elements of choreography effectively so that it is easy to pick up and use with even my least experienced students. Concepts can also be modified to fit more advanced students as well. (The reviewer who considered this book "pedantic" may not have realized that most resources have to be modified to fit different environments.) Rubrics are provided, but I usually use them as a resource and create my own. This is one of the few choreography "manuals" that truly emphasizes the necessity of choreographic intent being the primary step in the choreographic process. When my students truly utilize inquiry as an impetus for dance-making, the results are phenomenal...no matter the ability of the student. Teaching inquiry is not easy, and being able to find new ways of inspiring it in my students is what makes this book invaluable to me. I should also note that this book has also strengthened my own skills as a choreographer. I wholeheartedly recommend this book to anyone teaching or learning choreography. By far, it has been the best resource I own.

0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. excellent teaching tool!
By msfoshee
This delightful book is chock full of wonderful ideas, improv structures and most of all essential and reflective questions. As a teaching artist striving to integrate elementary school curriculum with movement, it is a resource in which I can easily find the concept I'm working on with lots of material to draw from as well as rubrics to assess the student's learning. Developing the habit of inquiry as an artist also feeds in to inquiry as a teacher. I use it all the time!

One school of thought regarding choreography says to teach only the rules of fundamental design and form and have students create from formulas. Another school of thought eschews the fundamentals and focuses on creativity. Author Diana Green espouses both theories and blends them beautifully in *Choreographing From Within: Developing a Habit of Inquiry as an Artist*. Her approach to integrating the art and craft of choreography grounds students in the fundamentals and takes the fear out of creativity. Green uses an inquiry-based approach to engage students, placing them at the center of the learning and allowing for multiple pathways of learning. Rather than present a cookbook approach with recipes to follow, Green offers a thorough understanding of the medium, provides examples, and allows students to learn, explore, and create based on their own unique styles. *Choreographing From Within* will help students learn to create movement that originates from a specific intent, understand the elements of choreography, synthesize those elements through a series of exercises in which they are given explicit instruction, and break formulaic boundaries as they create their own dances. The text contains assignments that reinforce the concepts the students learn in each chapter (including the elements of energy, space, time, and quality; partnering; transitions; and formulas). Each choreographic concept is explored through warm-up exercises, moves on to improvisations, and then focuses on students' discovery through reflective questioning, discussions, and short movement studies. The text provides tools for students and their instructors to evaluate and document their progress through class critiques, journal writing, rubrics, digital portfolios, and critical thinking essays. Students can retest their discoveries by completing exercises that focus on breaking the rules they learned. In this way, each student is encouraged to develop a unique creative style to be used in his or her own finished work, be it for solo, duet, or small-group choreography. Part I focuses on the process of choreography and how to be intentionally creative. Part II introduces students to the elements of movement, helping them to analyze the separate elements before they learn to synthesize them in part III, where music is added. Students also learn how to apply transitions in their work, use formulas to manipulate movement, and explore with props and various numbers of dancers. Finally, in part IV, students begin planning finished pieces of choreography using methods of refining and forming. The book's dynamic photos illustrate the concepts covered in the book, helping to shape students' awareness and inspire them in their own creations. Because the text is designed for use with all dance techniques, the glossary terms clarify communication across various dance styles. *Choreographing From Within* helps students find the unique artist within themselves. That unique artist springs from the inquiry-based approach that puts students in the driver's seat and provides numerous pathways and tools for them to develop their abilities to their fullest.

About the Author Diana F. Green, MFA, is celebrating her third career in the arts as the arts in education program manager for the Alabama State Council on the Arts in Montgomery. Having founded the first P-12 certification program in dance in the state of Alabama, she stays informed of the latest research on teaching and uses dance as an integration tool for learning. Preparing for her first career, Green studied under Eugene Loring and Antony Tudor, learning diverse styles and concentrating on choreography and pedagogy. She taught at a preprofessional ballet school and youth company in Silver Spring, Maryland, for 15 years. Her students have gone on to dance with nationally recognized companies performing on Broadway and throughout the world. During her tenure in Maryland, she was selected to choreograph and direct a performing arts tribute for Maryland's 350th birthday. Moving from private studio to higher education, Green designed and directed the dance program at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama,

for 12 years. Her program was among the first to receive the National College Choreography Initiative Grant funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and Dance USA, and her dancers were selected to showcase at the KennedyCenter and have won awards as choreographers and performers. Green has choreographed eight full-length ballets and numerous concert works in varied styles. She has received grants for her work in both Maryland and Alabama. She continues as guest choreographer and master teacher for schools and companies in Alabama and has received an invitation to teach choreography in Pietresanta, Italy.