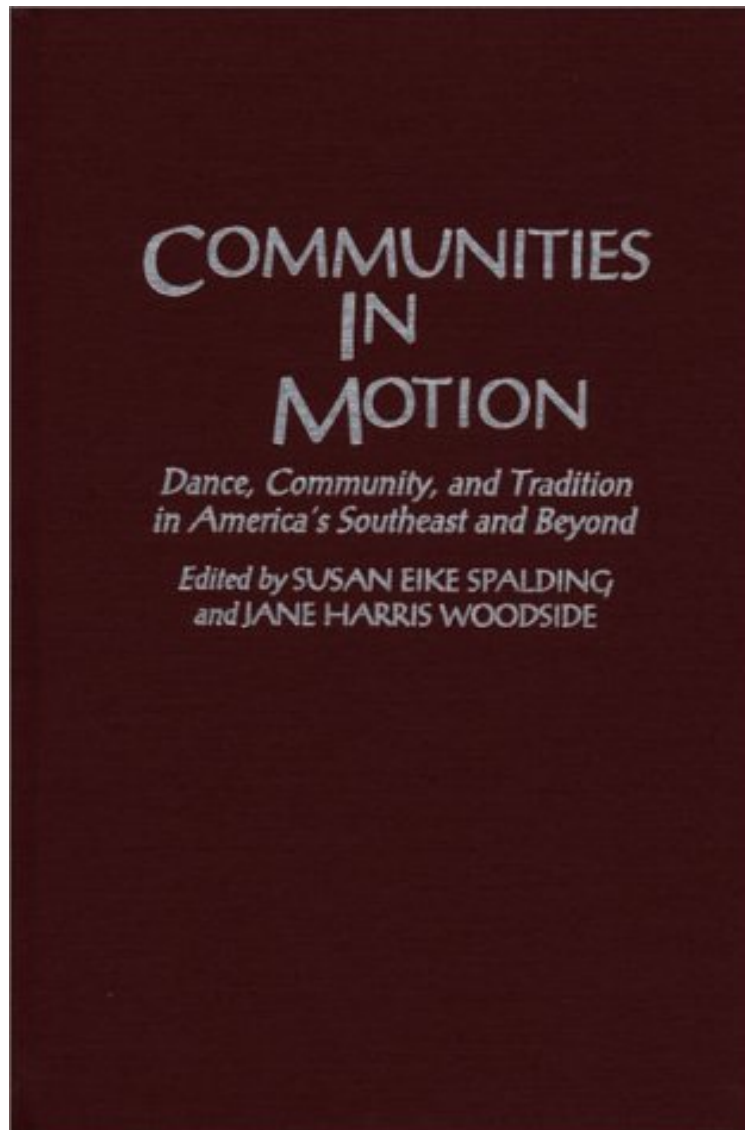


[FREE] Communities in Motion: Dance, Community, and Tradition in America's Southeast and Beyond (Contributions to the Study of Music and Dance)

Communities in Motion: Dance, Community, and Tradition in America's Southeast and Beyond (Contributions to the Study of Music and Dance)

Susan E. Spalding, Jane H. Woodside
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Susan E. Spalding, Jane H. Woodside : Communities in Motion: Dance, Community, and Tradition in America's Southeast and Beyond (Contributions to the Study of Music and Dance) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Communities in Motion: Dance, Community, and

Tradition in America's Southeast and Beyond (Contributions to the Study of Music and Dance):

For the first time, a book on vernacular dance provides detailed case studies about a range of forms: old-time square dancing in Virginia, Indiana, and Newfoundland; African-American step shows; clogging; Cherokee traditional dance; historical reconstructions of 18th-century dance; and modern contra. This book fills a need from graduate studies to high schools, which are mandated under the Educate America Act to teach dance in historical and cultural perspective. Those interested in folklore, anthropology, dance history, ethnology, aesthetics, American Studies, Appalachian Studies, and more, will benefit from this work as they learn how vernacular dance reflects and shapes communities. The work is divided into four sections. Each section is prefaced with an introductory essay that sets the essays and interviews into a theoretical context. *Continuity and Change* deals primarily with dance forms that have developed organically within a community. *Conserving Tradition* considers the conscious efforts of people from a particular culture to maintain a vernacular dance tradition in the face of change. *Inventing Tradition* examines revival dance and historical dance reconstructions. Finally, *Practical Suggestions for the Documentation of Traditional Dance* will benefit readers who want to try their hands at research and documentation.

The book is at its strongest when it works from Byam's direct experiences as actor, playwright, and facilitator in various theater-for-development troupes in the late 1980's and early nineties. She also makes good use of interviews conducted with organizers of these theater groups, and she draws on otherwise unavailable unpublished documents collected from theater organizations and departments.

African Studies About the Author
SUSAN EIKE SPALDING is coordinator of the Dance Initiative for the Minnesota Center for Arts Education. She holds her Doctorate in Dance from Temple University, is a certified movement analyst, and is president of the Congress on Research in Dance. Her video documentary, *Step Back Cindy: Old Time Dancing in Southwest Virginia*, appeared on public television in 1991. Recent research explores interethnic interaction in the development of aesthetics of Appalachian traditional dance.

JANE HARRIS WOODSIDE is assistant director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services at East Tennessee State University. She coordinated Center-sponsored conferences, workshops, and public programs on vernacular dance from 1989 to 1992. She has conducted research and lectured on traditional dance among the Eastern Band of the Cherokee in North Carolina.