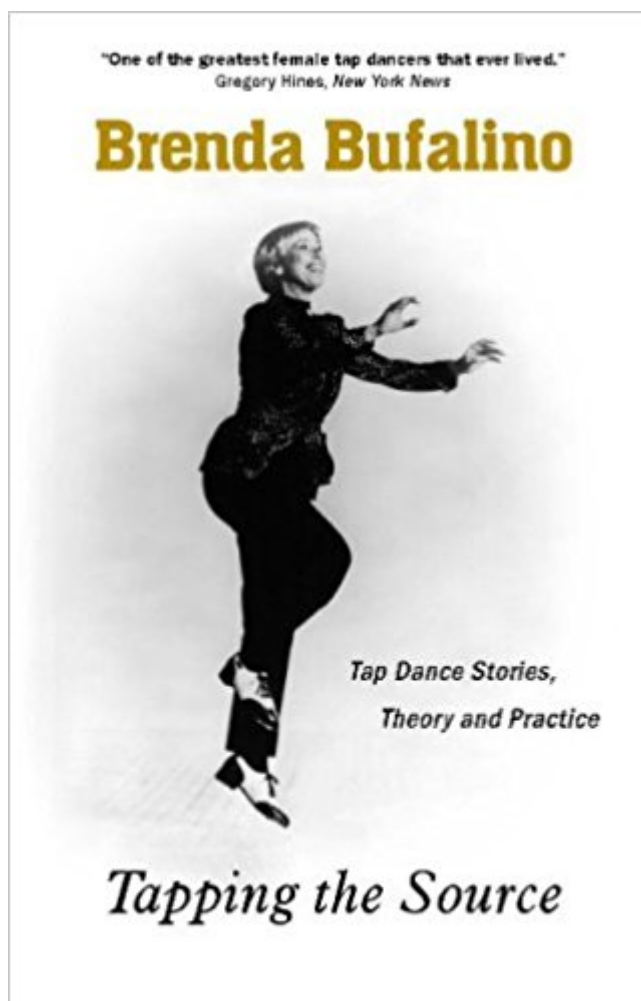


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Tapping The Source: Tap Dance Stories, Theory And Practice



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Brenda Bufalino is a performer, master teacher, choreographer, author, actress, producer and director. Choreographer and founder of the celebrated American Tap Dance Orchestra, she has been a trailblazer in the renaissance of jazz and tap dance and a guiding force in the creation of countless tap festivals and workshops world-wide. She has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York Foundation for the Arts and was recently awarded the prestigious Flobert Award, The Tapestry Award, and The Hooper Award for contributions to the field and lifetime achievement. When not on tour, Bufalino divides her time between New York City and New Paltz, New York. She has two sons and five grandchildren, as well as thousands of students around the world.

As an older newbie to tap, this book by Brenda Buffalino has help me break down the basics of tap steps. She is amazing in her analysis of tap moves, and her understanding of the difficulty in transtions and the importance of introducing speed at a manageable pace.

Awesome book!

I'm so glad that Brenda Buffalino has had a chance to put her interesting life in print for all of us to share...she is a treasure in the world of tap.....

With "Tapping the Source," Brenda Bufalino has given us a brilliantly titled and generously written professional memoir that opens a view into the personal impulses that have driven her creative process. The book is divided into two sections. Part one is a memoir in the guise of "Tap Dance Stories;" part two, "Theory and Practice," is a master class for experienced tap dancers, but not to be skipped by the in, un, or less experienced, as Brenda continues the memoir even as she notates rhythms, and offers teaching tips. Full disclosure: I count myself as one of Brenda's many friends, and my wife has produced her work in Seattle over the course of the years. From that vantage point I've been witness to a few of the events in this book, and have also been a willing audience for many of the stories. Brenda is an inveterate story-teller whose ideas, interests, and sources range vastly. A conversation with her, especially if it's a group event, is often like a tropical storm, and when she said she was writing a book I wondered how she'd be able to master the elements to a table as rigid as the page. Now, Brenda may be an improviser, but that's not to say she isn't disciplined, and she found the discipline for the book without sacrificing the art of the story. The book is a good read. It's witty, filled with tap history, opinionated, and touching in its personal reminiscences - most notably of her mother, her mystical involvement with people and place, and her long association with Honi Coles. Brenda is an Artist, with a capital A. As a being she transcends her chosen forms. Her book will be purchased by dancers, but it's a book for artists, so if you are on the path, "Tapping the Source," is a useful map.

If you love tap dancing you will love this book. Brenda's stories are totally inspirational as are her tap techniques and theory. The theory part is designed for those who have some experience with tap dancing. One of the great things about this book is that much of the book covers the last 35 years of tap dance so the stories are all very recent and can easily be related to. You won't want to put the book down once you start reading the tap dance stories section, it's such a good read. When you get to the technique section you'll want to try the steps out.

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