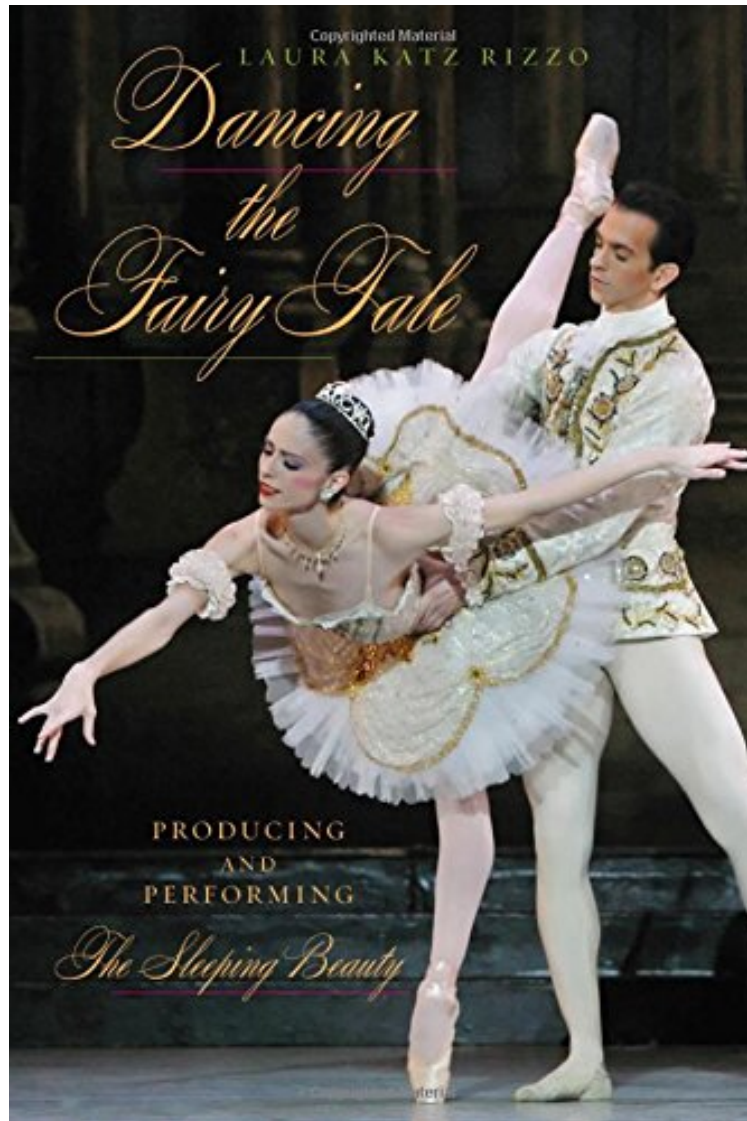


[Free pdf] Dancing the Fairy Tale: Producing and Performing The Sleeping Beauty

# Dancing the Fairy Tale: Producing and Performing The Sleeping Beauty

Laura Katz Rizzo

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**Laura Katz Rizzo : Dancing the Fairy Tale: Producing and Performing The Sleeping Beauty** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Dancing the Fairy Tale: Producing and Performing The Sleeping Beauty:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Beautiful book for practitionersBy marijaBeautiful book for practitioners, and connoisseurs of ballet. Easy to read, educational, critical and optimistic! Takes on feminist

perspective without being overly didactic, or historically unreliable.

In *Dancing the Fairy Tale*, Laura Katz Rizzo claims that *The Sleeping Beauty* is both a metaphor for ballet itself, and a powerful case study for examining ballet and its production and performance. Using Marius Petipa and Pyotr Tchaikovsky's classical dance--specifically as it was staged in Philadelphia over nearly 70 years--Katz Rizzo looks at the gendered nature of women staging, coaching, and reanimating this magnificent ballet, and well as the ongoing push-pull between tradition and innovation within the art form. Using extensive archival research, dance analysis, and American feminist theory, *Dancing the Fairy Tale* places women at the center of a historical narrative to reveal how the production and performance of *The Sleeping Beauty* in the years between 1937 and 2002 made significant contributions to the development and establishment of an American classical ballet. Katz Rizzo highlights not only what women have done not only behind the scenes, as administrators, producers, or directors of ballet companies and schools, but also as active interpreters embodying the ballet's title role. In the process, Katz Rizzo also emphasizes the importance of regional sites outside of locations traditionally understood as central to the development of ballet in the United States.

"*Dancing the Fairy Tale* offers a new historical perspective on the development of the art of ballet and the pivotal roles women have played as performing artists, directors, and producers. Using *The Sleeping Beauty* as her vehicle, Laura Katz Rizzo debunks the prevailing historical narrative that ballet's evolution has been linear and dominated by male choreographers and directors, effectively arguing that the ballerina is an integral part of the creative process. Well written and extensively researched, *Dancing the Fairy Tale* will be a welcome addition to any balletomanes library and an excellent text for courses in dance criticism, dance history, and women's studies." Rory Foster, Professor Emeritus at DePaul University and author of *Ballet Pedagogy: The Art of Teaching*