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Partner Dance Success: Be The One They Want: What I Wish I Knew When I Started Social Dancing (PDS Book 1)



Synopsis

Want to be a better social dancer in less time? Progress faster than your peers and get more out of your practice and dance time? Ever wonder what it's like when potential partners seek you out? Find out what makes you desirable as a partner, and pay attention to the most important dance elements. Adults focus on different elements than children, and you'll get more from your lessons and practice sessions. You can dance better tomorrow, next week and beyond with the information found in this book. This book is full of practical, actionable, inspiring articles originally written for one of the world's most popular social dance blogs (www.UnlikelySalsero.com) Voted #1 dance blog in 2013 by the DanceAdvantage.net readers. The insights come from someone widely known as the "World's Least Likely Dance Instructor." Don Baarns was a professional musician in his 20s, studying and working with some of the most recorded musicians in Los Angeles. Watching tens of thousands of dancers over the years while performing, he always said "Someday I'd like to dance too, that seems like fun." It took him into his mid 40s to start that pursuit, and his light hearted, fun, self-conscious, real world journey into dancing will benefit your quest greatly. Musicians and dancers follow an amazingly parallel improvement path. Don started teaching private drum lessons around 1977 and has decades of teaching and music experience. From his beginning dance lessons, Don knew he would someday teach this art too, as he quickly recognized the similarities among the elite dancers and musicians. Today, he passes that wisdom along to thousands of dancers in group classes, private lessons, his blog and online videos. These time-tested articles have been created, refined, organized and updated to reflect years of accumulated social dance experience, plus feedback from a huge set of dance friends, partners, blog readers, students, club dancers and other instructors from around the world. As a master instructor himself, today he also coaches many other teachers, both in musicality and in teaching techniques. Most chapters are written as standalone articles, and will contribute to your overall dancing success. They are also written from a very personal point of view; outlining successes, short-term failures and solutions YOU can apply directly to your dancing. All to inspire you and help improve your dancing faster than the crowd. It's not brain surgery or beyond your reach; it's the right mindset, the right techniques and some uncommon approaches to excellence learned from years of performing and teaching both music and dance.

Book Information

File Size: 676 KB

Print Length: 106 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Baarns Publishing; 1.22 edition (May 1, 2013)

Publication Date: May 1, 2013

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00CLG16QI

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #602,843 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #13 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Dance > Modern #15 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Arts & Photography > Dance > Popular #51 in Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance > Popular

Customer Reviews

I first became familiar with Don Baarns through his Unlikely Salsero Facebook Site. I liked what he posted there, so I bought his books. The thing I enjoyed most is that several things my instructors emphasize with me and I stress with my students are covered. It is also a quick read filled with valuable content. His insight as a musician, student, dancer and instructor is invaluable. I look forward to revisiting this book in six months or so.

I have learned a lot about dancing etiquette and I have new insights on partner dancing. I highly recommend it.

Should not be sold in paperback because it includes links in the text.

I've been dancing for a while and I picked up some great tips from this book. This covers dance etiquette that hardly EVER gets addressed in classes, but makes the difference between being sought after and avoided.

A well written book, created by a real dancer! Don writes in a way that is simple to understand and is highly useful. So many books talk about technique and fine details, but DON provides useful info that is helpful to all levels of dancers! He is easy to understand, his advice is easy to implement and will make a big difference. It doesn't matter if you are the lead or the follow - this book is helpful. Thanks Don, I not only love your book, but also your blog!

This book was easy to read and very helpful in improving my dancing. I ended up buying the next one, too.

LA musician and salsa teacher Don Baarns has written a definitive guide that answers the age old question: How to I get the better social dancers to dance with me? Chock full of personal anecdotes and links to Youtube videos, I highly recommend this book for all social dancers(salsa, barchata, hustle, ball room, tango) who want to spend less time sitting and more time dancing with the best dancers.

I have read a lot about social dance and I have written a bit about it. And I can say that what makes this book unique is how easy it is to use as a reference for any of a number of issues you might have. This comes from the layout of the e-book. It is a collection of small, but very concise, articles on a number of issues faced by new dancers. Even though it is directed at people who are new to dance, it is still good for more experienced dancers. I am not a good spectator, and put little effort into watching others. However, Don's argument on the need to watch better dancers was convincing enough for me to reevaluate what I do. Just last night at a medal night I put more effort into watching higher level dancers and how they dance. No matter the level you're at, it's always good to be reminded of things that can slip your mind. I should point out that the foci of the e-book are aligned more with the social aspects of dance, learning and musicality. The last point makes perfect sense; Don is probably the best I have come across when it comes to musicality. The social side of things is something that I have given little thought to, I think that's just related because that hasn't been much of a challenge to me, but I still liked what Don had to say. The stuff he has on learning is good too, I think this is a very much undervalued aspect of social dance - few people understand what is needed, and sometimes think they lack the required natural talent. Don will show you what you need to get good.

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