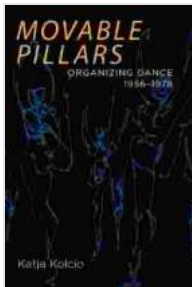


Movable Pillars: Organizing Dance 1956 - 1978 by Marion Meade

Marion Meade was a visionary dance organizer and arts administrator whose work had a profound impact on the development of American dance in the mid-20th century. Through her tireless efforts, she established numerous dance companies and programs, providing a platform for emerging and established artists alike. Her legacy continues to inspire and guide dance professionals today.



Movable Pillars: Organizing Dance, 1956–1978

by Marion Meade

★★★★☆ 4.4 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1392 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 237 pages



Early Life and Career

Marion Meade was born in New York City in 1920. She began her dance training at an early age, studying with renowned teachers such as Martha Graham and Hanya Holm. After graduating from Bennington College in 1942, she worked as a dancer and choreographer in New York and Europe. In 1948, she married dancer and choreographer William Bales.

In 1956, Meade co-founded the American Dance Festival at Connecticut College with Hanya Holm and Charles Weidman. The festival quickly became a major center for dance education and innovation, attracting dancers and choreographers from around the world.

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival

In 1957, Meade became the director of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in Massachusetts. Under her leadership, the festival grew in stature and reputation, becoming one of the most prestigious dance events in the United States. Meade programmed a diverse range of performances, including works by established companies such as the Merce Cunningham Dance Company and the Martha Graham Dance Company, as well as by emerging choreographers.

Meade also established a residency program at Jacob's Pillow, providing financial support and rehearsal space to dance companies and artists. The program has been instrumental in the development of numerous choreographers and dance companies, including Twyla Tharp, Mark Morris, and Bill T. Jones.

National Endowment for the Arts

In 1966, Meade was appointed to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) as a dance panelist. In this role, she played a key role in the development of federal funding for dance. She also worked with the NEA to establish the American Dance Guild, a national service organization for the dance community.

Meade continued to work with the NEA throughout her career, serving on numerous panels and committees. She was a tireless advocate for dance,

and her efforts helped to secure funding for dance companies and organizations across the United States.

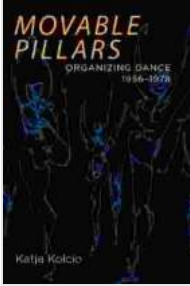
Later Years and Legacy

In 1978, Meade retired from her position as director of Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. She continued to work as a consultant and advisor to dance organizations, and she remained a passionate advocate for the arts. Meade died in 2013 at the age of 93.

Marion Meade's legacy is immense. She was a pioneer in the field of dance organization and administration, and her work helped to shape the American dance landscape. She was a tireless advocate for dance, and her efforts have benefited generations of dancers and choreographers.

Marion Meade was a true visionary who dedicated her life to the advancement of dance. Her work as a dance organizer and arts administrator was instrumental in the development of American dance in the mid-20th century. Her legacy continues to inspire and guide dance professionals today.





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