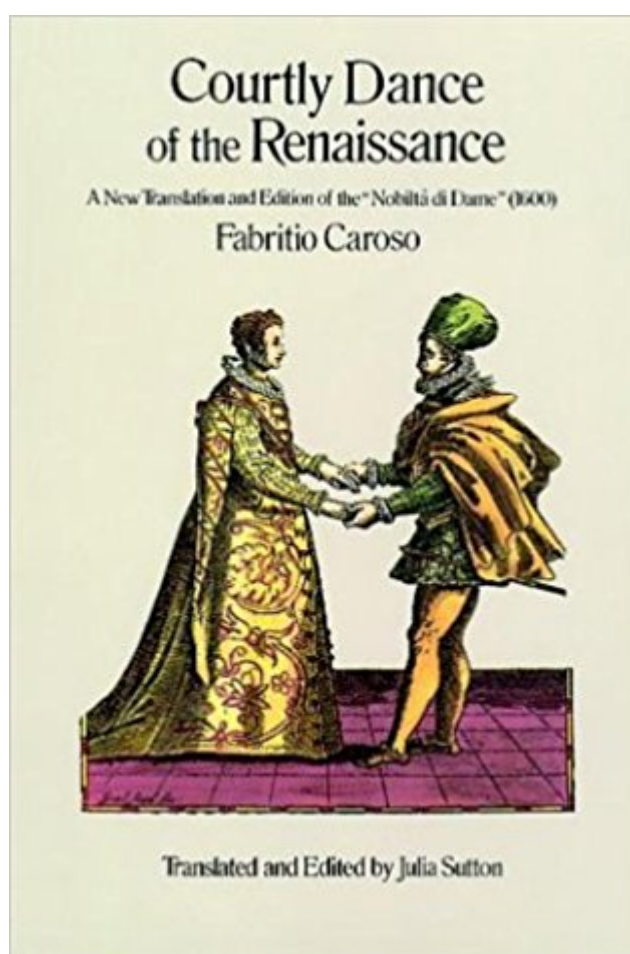


The book was found

Courtly Dance Of The Renaissance: A New Translation And Edition Of The Nobiltà Di Dame (1600) (Dover Books On Music)



Synopsis

Renaissance classic includes choreography and music for 49 dances, plus all-important guidance on how to dress, how to behave, and how to carry oneself while dancing at court, set down with utmost clarity and precision. Indispensable source of authentic information on courtly dance in the period from 1550 to 1610.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: Italian

I got this book because I realized that my understanding of the culture of dancing in the Renaissance was hugely limited. I chose this book over all the others because it is a reproduction and translation of a period work by Fabritio Caroso, a master of dance from the 16th century. It includes not only his instructions for the dances themselves but also an in-depth look at the history of dancing by the translator, Julia Sutton. Novices to dancing won't find an easy guide here. There are no apologies made for the complexity of the instructions or their general difficulty. It's not a guide in the sense that a modern person might find useful. It's not trying to be a guide like that. Instead, this book is how people in the actual Renaissance viewed dancing and learned how to do it. Experienced dancers will likely be able to suss out how these descriptions translate to actual body movements, but inexperienced ones won't get far and should not expect to be able to do

so. What I really appreciated about this book was its in-depth treatment of the culture of dancing. Names of dances, their "feel," and their terminology are only the beginning of what you can find here. The things I found most useful were the descriptions of the etiquette of a dance: how to accept or decline invitations, what to wear, how to behave while at a dance, how to leave, how to bow and curtsy, and the like. The actual accepted protocols for how to pick partners or eliminate dancers in competitions are also discussed at length. In short, for someone who wants to know about an important facet of Renaissance society, I can't see how you'd possibly do better than this book.

Excellent book, a must-have book for anyone practicing historical dances and a classic for all history buffs.

You either need Fabritio Caroso's Courtly Dance Manual or you don't. This is an old text in a new(ish) publishing format. If you have a reason to consult a centuries-old dance manual, this book is for you! (If you don't, why are you reading these reviews?) The binding is solid and looks as though it will last. The material inside captures dance from the Medieval/Renaissance ages. Labanotation for the Renaissance!

Julia Sutton is one of the leading Renaissance dance historians, and this work reflects her careful scholarship. However, while "Courtly Dance of the Renaissance" does contain Fabritio Caroso's explanations of steps and choreographies, it is quite difficult to reconstruct dances from these descriptions. There are many ambiguities in the instructions, and since Sutton's goal is to provide an accurate translation rather than an interpretation, she leaves these conundrums intact. Sutton also translates the names of the steps into English, which makes this volume harder to use in conjunction with other Renaissance dance resources, which leave them in Italian. Nevertheless, for those with some grounding in dances of this period, "Courtly Dance of the Renaissance" is a critical source, and the wonderful discussions of etiquette and costume require no prior knowledge to enjoy.

This is an actual book from 1600. The ad doesn't quite make that clear. This is not "we look at past history." This IS it as our ancestors would have viewed it. A person can make sense of this. The steps are taught and there are masses of music sheets. I am holding the actual material all those elite ladies and gentlemen were taught by. Wow! No one especially in America is going to be outdone by the grand people of the past. We're there. I reason it doesn't matter if one is lousy and does it

wrong. It's the point of this whole thing. I have read enough to know that "dancing" was about a two year serious undertaking to learn in the past. It'll take about two years one step at a time. This isn't a thin little paper back. I recommend it but not for the peasants. They can do Darrin's Dance Groves.

Nobilta Di Dame is one of the major sources for information on renaissance dance. It contains detailed "rules" for how to do the various 16th century dance steps, as well as choreographies with music. However, this book is a translation, not a reconstruction of these dances. You still have to do the work of figuring out how to dance them yourself. Nevertheless, if you have any interest in 16th century dance, this book is worth buying, even if you don't dance the specific choreographies contained in it. Sutton's overview of the dance types of the period and the chapters discussing the issues involved in translating the text and music would be of use to anyone who is interested in the process of reconstructing dances from primary sources. Dover Publications has done the historical dance community a great service by making the paperback edition of this work available.

This book is a wonderful reference tool for anyone interested in historical dancing! Translated and Edited by none other than Julia Sutton, this book explains many of the social dances and practices of the aristocrats. It includes the dance steps, an explanation of how they occur, music, and labnotation. This book is truly a must have for anyone with a serious desire to understand dance practices of the times!

Another reference book, scholarly, difficult for the non-professional.

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