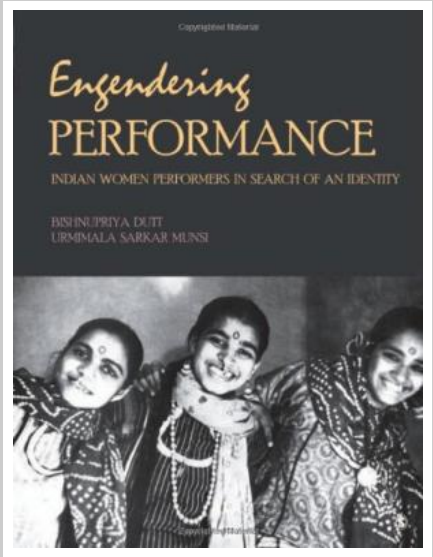


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Engendering Performance: Indian Women Performers in Search of an Identity

By Bishnupriya Dutt,Urmimala Sarkar

Sage Publications, 2010. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. The book is a comprehensive critical history of women performers in Indian theatre and dance of the colonial and postcolonial periods. Its underlying premise is that one cannot evaluate performance in the Indian context without looking at dance and theatre together, unlike the course taken by traditional scholarship. Issues of sexuality and colonialism, and culture and society come together in this study to provide a holistic account of women performers in India. New information and insights have been provided in the discourse by a close reading of archival materials, field surveys and extensive interviews, which are the distinguishing features of this book. The book is divided into two sections. The first one is on the Actress, while the second is on the Danseuse in the Indian context. Although linked by the common trajectory of having been part of the same history, society and culture, they emerge as having evolved in different ways as they encountered some common but many unique situations. In trying to balance a historical narrative with emphasis on crucial individual topics, the book explores the theme of identity and body politics. It demands a pluralistic approach combining history, economics, cultural...

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