

# Hidden Movement: Contemporary Voices of Black British Dance



## Hidden Movement: Contemporary Voices of Black British Dance by Richard Schechner

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Hidden Movement is an inspiring and groundbreaking initiative that aims to celebrate and elevate the voices of Black British dancers. Founded in 2016, the project has become a vital platform for showcasing the artistry, resilience, and diversity of these talented performers.

This article will delve into the history, evolution, and impact of Hidden Movement. We will explore the reasons why the initiative was created, its accomplishments to date, and the challenges that Black British dancers face in the dance industry.

## The History of Hidden Movement

Hidden Movement was founded by four Black British dancers: Ayesha Ashanti, Sharon Watson, Annabelle Lopez Ochoa, and Kenrick Sandy. They recognized the need for a space where Black dancers could feel represented, celebrated, and empowered.

The initiative was launched with a series of dance workshops and performances. These events provided a platform for Black dancers to showcase their work and connect with each other. The workshops also offered opportunities for dancers to learn from experienced professionals and develop their skills.

## **The Evolution of Hidden Movement**

Since its inception, Hidden Movement has evolved into a multifaceted platform that supports Black British dancers in a variety of ways:

- **Performances:** Hidden Movement continues to host dance performances that feature the work of Black British dancers. These performances have taken place at prestigious venues across the UK, including the Royal Opera House and Sadler's Wells.
- **Workshops and Classes:** Hidden Movement offers a range of workshops and classes tailored to the needs of Black British dancers. These classes provide opportunities for dancers to develop their skills, learn new techniques, and connect with other dancers.
- **Mentoring and Support:** Hidden Movement provides mentoring and support to Black British dancers at all stages of their careers. The organization offers guidance on everything from dance training to career development.
- **Advocacy and Representation:** Hidden Movement advocates for the greater representation of Black British dancers in the dance industry. The organization works to challenge stereotypes and ensure that Black dancers have equal opportunities to succeed.

## **The Impact of Hidden Movement**

Hidden Movement has had a significant impact on the dance industry in the UK and beyond:

- **Increased Visibility:** Hidden Movement has helped to increase the visibility of Black British dancers. The organization has provided a platform for these dancers to showcase their work and share their stories.
- **Increased Opportunities:** Hidden Movement has created new opportunities for Black British dancers. The organization has worked with a range of partners to create dance workshops, performances, and other opportunities for Black dancers.
- **Inspired a New Generation:** Hidden Movement has inspired a new generation of Black British dancers. The organization's work has shown young dancers that they can succeed in the dance industry, regardless of their background.
- **Promoted Diversity and Inclusion:** Hidden Movement has helped to promote diversity and inclusion in the dance industry. The organization's work has challenged the status quo and made the dance industry more welcoming to Black dancers.

## **The Challenges Facing Black British Dancers**

Despite the progress that has been made, Black British dancers continue to face a number of challenges in the dance industry:

- **Stereotyping:** Black dancers are often stereotyped as being only capable of performing certain types of dance, such as hip-hop or jazz. This can limit their opportunities to work in other genres.

- **Discrimination:** Black dancers sometimes face discrimination, both overt and covert, in the dance industry. This can make it difficult for them to find work and advance their careers.
- **Lack of Representation:** Black dancers are often underrepresented in the dance industry, both in terms of performers and choreographers. This can make it difficult for Black dancers to see themselves represented in the media and the dance world.

## **Hidden Movement is Making a Difference**

Hidden Movement is playing a vital role in addressing the challenges facing Black British dancers. The organization provides a space where Black dancers can feel represented, celebrated, and empowered.

Hidden Movement is also working to change the dance industry from within. The organization is advocating for the greater representation of Black British dancers and challenging stereotypes.

Hidden Movement is making a real difference in the lives of Black British dancers. The organization is providing these dancers with the support, opportunities, and representation they need to succeed.

Hidden Movement is a groundbreaking initiative that is transforming the dance industry in the UK and beyond. The organization is providing a much-needed platform for Black British dancers and working to change the industry from within.

Hidden Movement is making a real difference in the lives of Black British dancers. The organization is helping to increase their visibility, create new opportunities, and promote diversity and inclusion in the dance industry.

We encourage you to support Hidden Movement and the work that they do. You can learn more about the organization and its upcoming events on their website.

### Image Alt Attributes







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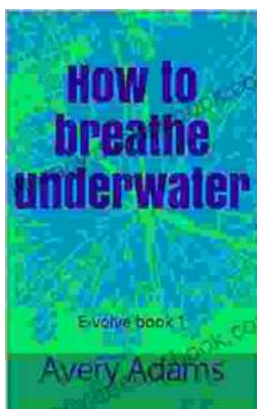
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