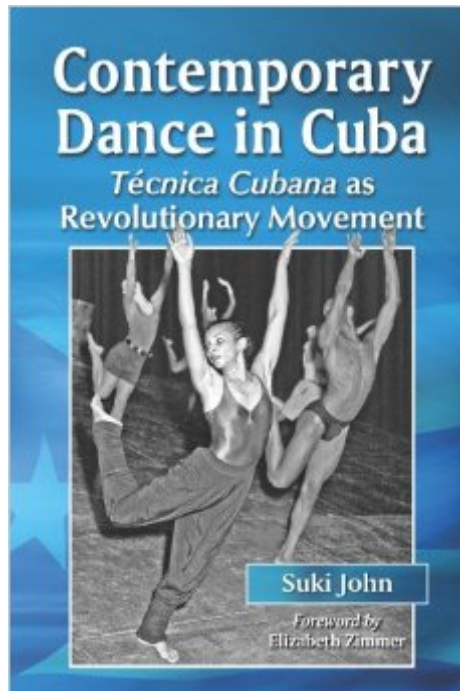


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# Contemporary Dance In Cuba: Técnica Cubana As Revolutionary Movement



## Synopsis

The lens of dance can provide a multifaceted view of the present-day Cuban experience. Cuban contemporary dance, or *tecnic cubana* as it is known throughout Latin America, is a highly evolved hybrid of ballet, North American modern dance, Afro-Cuban tradition, flamenco and Cuban nightclub cabaret. Unlike most dance forms, *tecnic* was created intentionally with government backing. For Cuba, a dancing country, it was natural--and highly effective--for the Revolutionary regime to link national image with the visceral power of dance. Written by a dancer who traveled and worked in Cuba from the 1970s to the present, this book provides an inside look at daily life in Cuba. From watching the great Alicia Alonso, to describing the economic trials of the 1990s "Special Period," the author uses history, humor, personal experience, rich description and extensive interviews to reveal contemporary life and dance in Cuba.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Every reader and consumer of our modern performing arts should consider where and how movements express social changes and progress. *Tecnica Cubana* is a fine expression of human

liberation through choreographed movements, chronicled by the ebullient (but never bullying) choreographer and writer Dr. Suki John. Thanks for helping us learn, write, and speak about dance, demonstrating the values of both creative and social movements around the world!

Suki John has written a well-researched yet personal memoir on a contemporary dance movement in Cuba. *Tecnica Cubana* is both an art form and a political entity; it requires an understanding of many dance practices as well as knowing popular Cuban culture. Ms. John's frequent travels to the island account for the book's personal narrative and interviews with Cuba's most important choreographers. Because of this, *Contemporary Dance in Cuba* is a necessary text for anyone studying dance or Cuban culture. In an age lacking strong communication between the island and the United States, Ms. John's book also provides an unusual glimpse into the national pride of the Cuban people. I received a free copy of this book through LibraryThing in exchange for a review.

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