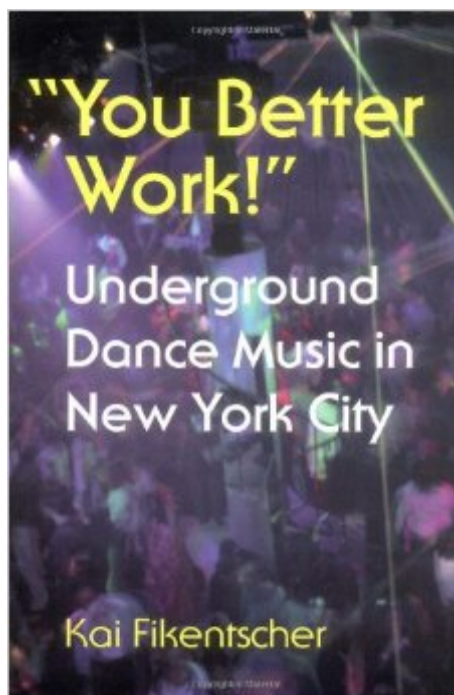


The book was found

# "You Better Work!" Underground Dance Music In New York City



## Synopsis

"You Better Work!" is the first detailed study of underground dance music or UDM, a phenomenon that has its roots in the overlap and cross-fertilization of African American and gay cultural sensibilities that have occurred since the 1970s. UDM not only predates and includes disco, but also constitutes a unique performance practice in the history of American social dance. Taking New York City as its geographic focus, "You Better Work!" shows how UDM functions in the lives of its DJs and dancers, and how it is used as the primary identifier of an urban subculture shaped essentially by the relationships between music, dance, and marginality. Kai Fikentscher goes beyond stereotypical images of club and disco to explore the cult and culture of the DJ, the turntable and vinyl recordings as musical instruments, and the vital relationship between music and dance at underground clubs. Including interviews, photographs, and an extensive discography, this ethnographic account tells the story of a celebration of collective marginality through music and dance

## Book Information

Series: Music/Culture

Paperback: 176 pages

Publisher: Wesleyan; 1st edition (August 18, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0819564044

ISBN-13: 978-0819564047

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (9 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,079,176 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #108 in [Books > Arts &](#)

[Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Dance](#) #1939 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences >](#)

[Social Sciences > Specific Demographics > Gay & Lesbian](#) #2475 in [Books > Gay & Lesbian >](#)

[Nonfiction](#)

## Customer Reviews

You Better Work! Underground Dance Music in New York City, by Kai Fikentscher  
Of the recent works of word or image dedicated to the spirit of the New York Underground, You Better Work! stands alone, in my opinion, as the first to conduct a thorough, scientifically sustainable analysis of a subcultural phenomenon whose rarified nature made it heretofore nearly impossible to grasp, save

from within. Other works can speak of history and its major players with unquestionable authenticity, as does Mel Cheren's *Keep On Dancin'*. Fikentscher's offering, however, proposes an exacting dissection of Underground Dance Music (UDM) properly placed in the sociocultural time-space continuum and described with academic accuracy, all the while remaining reverently connected to the magic of the specific dancefloor experience that gives UDM its singularity. UDM, and the invisible universe it materializes around itself and its devotees, present a unique quandary to the academically-inclined thinker. UDM is at once quite quantifiably tangible in its elements and techniques, yet undeniably metaphysical in its manifestation and effect. The scientist's dilemma, then, is to draw the black-and-white line of academic discipline around the grey frontiers of a shadow world. Without an initiate's third eye, the accomplishment of writing this seminal work for the students of a nascent discipline would have been unattainable. The advantage of being both an academic pioneer and a subcultural insider allows Fikentscher to paint his complicated picture within the perfect frame of reference—namely the sociocultural and (importantly) religious experience of gay African- and Hispanic-American men—as can only one who knows the subject matter firsthand.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

"You Better Work!" Underground Dance Music in New York City  
The Historical Atlas of New York City, Third Edition: A Visual Celebration of 400 Years of New York City's History  
The Historical Atlas of New York City: A Visual Celebration of 400 Years of New York City's History  
Seats: New York: 180 Seating Plans to New York Metro Area Theatres Third Edition (Seats New York)  
New-York Historical Society  
New York City in 3D  
In The Gilded Age: A Book Plus Stereoscopic Viewer and 50 3D Photos from the Turn of the Century  
The Bridges of New York (New York City)  
New York in the Thirties (New York City)  
Stories in Stone  
New York: A Field Guide to New York City Area Cemeteries & Their Residents  
How to Dance: Learn How to Line Dance, Belly Dance, Ice Dance and More  
MUSIC CITY NEWS magazine March 1980 George Jones on cover (The Sound of a City Heard Around The World, Volume XVII No. 9, Country Music, Bluegrass Music,)  
Dance and Music: A Guide to Dance Accompaniment for Musicians and Dance Teachers  
The Square Dance and Contra Dance Handbook: Calls, Dance Movements, Music, Glossary, Bibliography, Discography, and Directories  
Up Your Score: SAT: The Underground Guide, 2016-2017 Edition (Up Your Score: The Underground Guide to the SAT)  
Mark Wallinger: Labyrinth: A Journey Through London's Underground (Art on the Underground)  
Five Points: The 19th-Century New York City Neighborhood That Invented Tap Dance, Stole Elections, and Became the World's Most Notorious Slum  
Stepping Left: Dance and Politics in New York City, 1928â€”1942  
Five Points: The Nineteenth-Century New

York City Neighborhood That Invented Tap Dance, Stole Elections and Became the World's Most Notorious Slum City of Seditious: The History of New York City during the Civil War Storied City: A Children's Book Walking-Tour Guide to New York City StreetSmart NYC Map by VanDam - City Street Map of Manhattan, New York, in 9/11 National Memorial Edition - Laminated folding pocket size city travel and subway map, 2016 Edition

[Dmca](#)