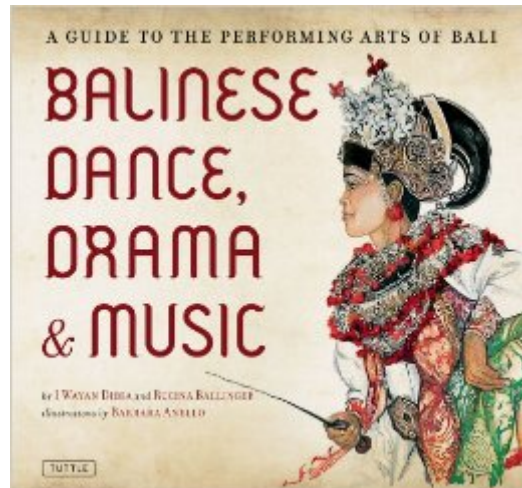


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# Balinese Dance, Drama & Music: A Guide To The Performing Arts Of Bali



## Synopsis

Bali has long been known for its deep spirituality and extraordinary artistic heritage. The dances, dramas, puppetry and music of Bali are more than icons for the island; they are part and parcel of life "as expressions of devotion to the gods, as entertainment, and as a way of instilling cultural values on each generation. *Balinese Dance, Drama & Music* is a lavishly illustrated introduction to Bali's celebrated temple orchestra, the gamelan, to its ancient shadow puppet theater, and to a myriad of traditional and contemporary dances and dance-dramas that continue to enthrall locals and visitors alike. Ideal reading for visitors to the island as well as for anyone interested in Balinese culture, the book presents the history and function of each performance genre, with illustrations and photographs to aid in identification. Introductory sections discuss the way performing arts are learned in Bali and the basic Balinese values which are passed on in these forms, as well as some of the basic religious and cultural tenets that are expressed in the arts and the functions of the forms themselves. Different sections describe particular forms of performing arts, such as Gong Angklung, Legong, the Keraton dance, Wayang Kulit, and the new phenomenon of women's gamelan groups, the evolution of each and the place it has in the culture of Bali. The book is enhanced with a bibliography and discography and over 150 specially prepared watercolors of Balinese performers and performances.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Extensively illustrated with over 200 full-color photographs, *Balinese Dance, Drama and Music: A*

Guide to the Performing Arts of Bali takes the reader on a captivating tour of the history, style, and function of Balinese gamelan music, dance, drama, and puppetry. Suitable for all ages, Balinese Dance, Drama and Music covers how performing arts are learned in Bali, the principal Balinese values that artistic media passes on, and discussion of individual forms of performing arts, such as Gameland Gong Kebyar, Lgong Keraton, Baris, Wayang Kulit, and the relatively recent phenomenon of women's and children's performing groups. A bibliography and discography round out this superbly captivating survey, written by expert dancers and choreographers.

This excellent book provides an extensive, reader-friendly overview of Balinese dance, music, drama and culture. It's the book we've all been waiting for. Written in an informal and high accessible style with wonderful pictures and illustrations it will no doubt be treasured by academics, Baliophiles or anyone wanting to visit Bali and more deeply experience it's powerful culture. Rucina and Dibia (I know them both) are extraordinary and passionate lovers of all things Bali and have written and taught extensively for decades. If anyone was to write this book, they were the obvious choice. There are dozens of books on this subject - most far too academic and inaccessible - including some of the classics. They got the information right, found the right expressive tone, and the layout is stunning. A wonderful experience throughout! Michael Wiese, filmmaker, publisher and Baliophile

This is the only recent book on this topic. It is authoritative, beautifully illustrated and a complete bargain for the price. People go to Bali and hang out on the beach and go to cheap tourist performances. This book tells the lay person (and even many experts) about the true ritual life in Bali which is enormous, complex and infinitely fascinating. The authors are two of the most authoritative researchers on Balinese traditional performance. Highly, highly recommended.

Great book! Explains different parts of the culture in detail. Of course, for more depth, you will need to consider additional resources. However, this book is visually beautiful and will make your trip to Bali much more culturally worthwhile! Enjoy

Excellent book for both those who are Bali newbies and those who already know about it, although it might be a little too detailed for some novices. Informative, with fantastic photos and drawings.

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