

ContributorsBrenda Farnell

Born September, 1948, Kingston-Upon Hull, United Kingdom. Teaching Diploma from I.M. Marsh College of Physical Education (Liverpool); Advanced Diploma in Dance Education, Goldsmith's College (London). Presently completing M.A. in anthropology of human movement at New York University, and advanced certification in Labanotation. Recently published two articles, 'Dance and Dance Education in England: A British Point of View' and 'Spatial Orientation and the Notion of Constant Opposition' (the latter with Dixie Durr) in JASHM. Her chief interests concern the literacy of movement and comparisons of signing systems, especially North American Indian Sign Languages. She has recently been admitted to take a Ph.D. at the anthropology department, Indiana University.

William K. Powers

Born July, 1934, St. Louis, Missouri. Completed B.A. at Brooklyn College, M.A. at Wesleyan University and Ph.D. in anthropology at University of Pennsylvania. Now full Professor in the department of anthropology at Rutgers University, New Brunswick Campus (New Jersey). He is the author of numerous books and articles, among which Oglala Religion and Yuwipi: Vision and Experience in Oglala Ritual are perhaps best known. Among many articles, 'Plains Indian Music and Dance', that appears in a volume entitled Anthropology on the Great Plains is frequently consulted. Dr. Powers is a cultural anthropologist, and his main interests are in music, dance and religion.

Rajika Puri

Born September, 1945, educated in India: B.A. (New Delhi University); M.A. in anthropology of human movement (New York University). She has started work towards a Doctoral degree in social and cultural anthropology at the anthropology department at New York University. Rajika is an internationally known performer and teacher of three idioms of Indian Classical dance: Bharatanatyam, Odissi and Kuchipudi and she is a reviewer for India Today. She is interested in the making of meaning and the use of gesture from a semasiological point of view. Among others, a major article dealing with this subject is 'Polysemy and Homonymy and the Mudra 'Shikara': Multiple Meaning and the Use of Gesture', in JASHM, 1(4), 1981.

Drid Williams

Born October, 1928, Baker, Oregon. Completed three graduate degrees (Dip., B.Litt. and D.Phil.) from St. Hugh's College, Oxford between 1970 and 1976. She is currently Associate Professor and Director of a graduate program in the anthropology of human movement at New York University, and faculty editor for JASHM. She is also the architect of a theory of human actions and movement called 'semasiology' and is presently nearing completion of a book, Theories of the Dance: A Social Anthropologist's View. She is the author of numerous articles on the dance, liturgies, martial arts, etc., among which see 'The Arms and Hands, With Special Reference to an Anglo-Saxon Sign System' (Semiotica, 21(1/2), 1977), and 'Semasiology: A Semantic Anthropological View of Human Actions and Movement', in Semantic Anthropology (ASA 22), Ed. D. Parkin, Academic Press, London.