

Contributors

Marjorie Franken has taught sociocultural anthropology at Arkansas State University and several colleges and universities in California, including Whittier College and the University of California (Riverside), where she completed her Ph.D. in 1986. An essay based on her Doctoral work, 'Dance and Status in Swahili Society', appeared in a recent book, *Anthropology and Human Movement, 1: The Study of Dances* (Ed. D. Williams, Scarecrow Press, 1997: 202-218).

In 1996, she contributed 'Egyptian Cinema and Television: Dancing and the Female Image' for a special issue of *Visual Anthropology*, entitled *Signs of Human Action*. Dr. Franken's current research projects focus upon the formation of nationalism, post-colonial national culture and gender roles through the study of dancing in Egypt. She is currently completing a book on Egyptian dancing, the research for which was facilitated, among others, by a travel grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Diana Hart-Johnson holds an M.A. in the anthropology of human movement from New York University and a B.F.A. in dance from Juilliard. She was a soloist in the Martha Graham Dance Company prior to 1983, performing both solo and principal roles. She has taught dancing and choreographed works at several American universities, including the University of Massachusetts, the University of Wisconsin (Madison), Ithaca College and the University of Iowa, as well as at the Martha Graham School and Interlochen Arts Academy.

Since 1983, she has co-directed a school-age child care program and community school project in Sunset Park, New York under the auspices of the Center for Family Life. There, she created and now directs the performing arts component while effecting several other administrative duties as well. She has directed twenty-seven major productions there and has also completed commissioned works for Kanopy Dance Theatre and the Dave Bromberg Band. She has published several articles in *JASHM*.

Rajika Puri is an internationally known performer of three idioms of Indian classical dancing: Bharatanatyam, Odissi and Kuchipudi. She holds a B.A. (Hons.) in English Literature from Delhi University and an M.A. in the anthropology of human movement, New York University. She has published articles on Indian classical dancing in *JASHM*, *Semiotica* and several Indian publications. After many years in the United States, she returned to India, where she now lives in Bombay, from where she travels widely in order to teach and perform.