



# Sharing the Dance: Contact Improvisation and American Culture (New Directions in Anthropological Writing)

*Cynthia J. Novack*

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## **Sharing the Dance: Contact Improvisation and American Culture (New Directions in Anthropological Writing)** Cynthia J. Novack

In *Sharing the Dance*, Cynthia Novack considers the development of contact improvisation within its web of historical, social, and cultural contexts. This book examines the ways contact improvisers (and their surrounding communities) encode sexuality, spontaneity, and gender roles, as well as concepts of the self and society in their dancing.

While focusing on the changing practice of contact improvisation through two decades of social transformation, Novack's work incorporates the history of rock dancing and disco, the modern and experimental dance movements of Merce Cunningham, Anna Halprin, and Judson Church, among others, and a variety of other physical activities, such as martial arts, aerobics, and wrestling.

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