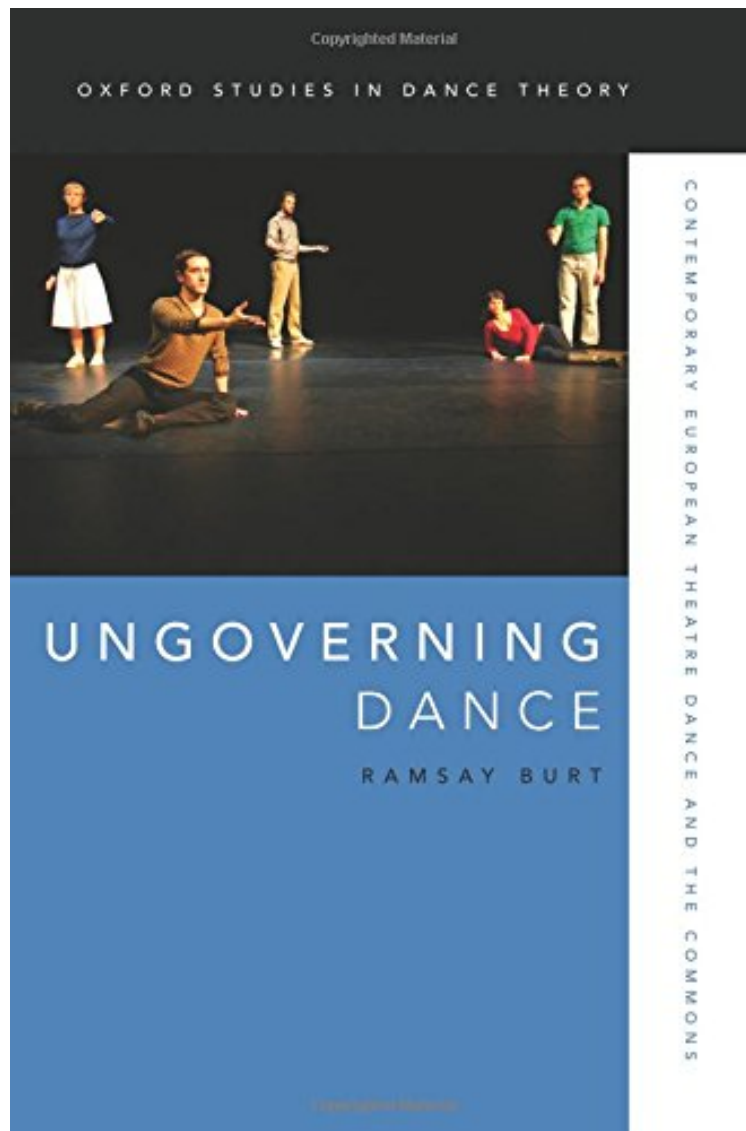


(Free) Ungoverning Dance: Contemporary European Theatre Dance and the Commons (Oxford Studies in Dance Theory)

Ungoverning Dance: Contemporary European Theatre Dance and the Commons (Oxford Studies in Dance Theory)

Ramsay Burt

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Ungoverning Dance examines the work of progressive contemporary dance artists in continental Europe from the mid 1990s to 2015. Placing this within the context of neoliberalism and austerity, the book argues that these artists have developed an ethico-aesthetic approach that uses dance practices as sites of resistance against dominant ideologies, and that their works attest to the persistence of alternative ways of thinking and living. In response to the way that the radical values informing their work are continually under attack from neoliberalism, these artists recognise that they in effect share common pool resources. Thus, while contemporary dance has been turned into a market, they nevertheless value the extent to which it functions as a commons. Work that does this, it argues, ungoverns dance. The book offers close readings of works from the 1990s and 2000s by two generations of European-based dance artists: that of Jrme Bel, Jonathan Burrows, La Ribot, and Xavier Le Roy who began showing work in the 1990s; and that of artists who emerged in the 2000s including Fabin Barba, Faustin Linyekula, Ivana Mller, and Nikolina Pristas. Topics examined include dance and precarious life, choreographing friendship, re-performance, the virtual in dance, and a dancer's experience of the Egyptian revolution. Ungoverning Dance proposes new ways of understanding recent contemporary European dance works by making connections with their social, political, and theoretical contexts.

"By examining the work of recent dance and performance artists, primarily European, in relation to philosophical inquiries into ethics, labor, and the public, Burt sets the stage for much-needed debates around dance and social responsibility."--Susan Leigh Foster, Distinguished Professor, UCLA"Ungoverning Dance is an elegant and insightful book that engages with dance at its limit. Oriented by an ethics of relationality, the book stages an encounter with what ungoverns dance, understanding ungoverning as the way dance pushes against the political. Exploring the interstitial force of the relational field opened by dance, Ramsey demonstrates how political moving can be."--Erin Manning, Research Chair, Relational Art and Philosophy, Concordia UniversityAbout the AuthorRamsay Burt is Professor of Dance History at De Montfort University.