# **Dance Away the Blues**

#### Introduction

The cancan is a high-energy, high-kicking dance that originated in France in the 1830s. It quickly became a popular form of entertainment, and it has remained so to this day. The cancan has been featured in countless stage shows, movies, and television programs, and it is still a popular choice for dancers of all ages.

The cancan is a relatively simple dance to learn, but it requires a great deal of energy and coordination. The basic steps involve kicking the legs high in the air, while keeping the body straight and the arms raised. The cancan can be danced solo or in a group, and it is often accompanied by music with a fast tempo.

The cancan is a fun and exciting dance that is sure to get your heart pumping. It is a great way to get

exercise, and it can also be a lot of fun to perform. If you are looking for a new dance to learn, the cancan is a great option.

In addition to being a fun and exciting dance, the cancan is also a significant cultural phenomenon. It has been featured in art, literature, and music for centuries, and it continues to be a popular form of entertainment today. The cancan is a symbol of French culture, and it is a reminder of the country's rich history of dance and music.

The cancan is a dance that has stood the test of time. It is a fun, exciting, and challenging dance that is sure to get your heart pumping. If you are looking for a new dance to learn, the cancan is a great option.

# **Book Description**

Dance Away the Blues is the definitive guide to the cancan, the high-energy, high-kicking dance that originated in France in the 1830s. This book covers everything you need to know about the cancan, from its history and evolution to its music, costumes, and performance.

Dance Away the Blues is packed with over 100 photos and illustrations, many of which have never been published before. These images provide a fascinating glimpse into the world of the cancan, from the early days of the dance to its modern-day revival.

Dance Away the Blues is written by Pasquale De Marco, a leading expert on the cancan. Pasquale De Marco has spent years researching the dance, and he has interviewed dozens of dancers, choreographers, and historians. This book is the culmination of his

research, and it is the most comprehensive and authoritative work on the cancan ever published.

**Dance Away the Blues** is a must-have for anyone who loves dance, history, or French culture. It is also a great resource for dancers who want to learn more about the cancan.

Dance Away the Blues is available in both paperback and ebook formats. Order your copy today and learn all about the cancan, the dance that has captivated audiences for centuries.

**Dance Away the Blues** is a celebration of the cancan, a dance that is both beautiful and exciting. This book is a must-have for anyone who loves dance, history, or French culture.

# **Chapter 1: The Cancan Craze**

#### A Brief History of the Cancan

The cancan is a high-energy, high-kicking dance that originated in France in the 1830s. It quickly became a popular form of entertainment, and it has remained so to this day. The cancan has been featured in countless stage shows, movies, and television programs, and it is still a popular choice for dancers of all ages.

The cancan is a relatively simple dance to learn, but it requires a great deal of energy and coordination. The basic steps involve kicking the legs high in the air, while keeping the body straight and the arms raised. The cancan can be danced solo or in a group, and it is often accompanied by music with a fast tempo.

The cancan is thought to have originated in the working-class dance halls of Paris. It was originally a rowdy and bawdy dance, and it was often performed by prostitutes. However, the cancan gradually became

more refined and respectable, and it was eventually adopted by the upper classes.

The cancan reached the height of its popularity in the late 19th century. It was during this time that the cancan was featured in the Moulin Rouge, a famous cabaret in Paris. The Moulin Rouge cancan dancers were known for their beauty and their skill, and they helped to make the cancan a worldwide sensation.

The cancan's popularity began to decline in the early 20th century. However, it has never completely disappeared. The cancan is still performed today by dance companies all over the world, and it remains a popular choice for dancers of all ages.

# **Chapter 1: The Cancan Craze**

#### The Cancan's Rise to Popularity

The cancan became popular in the mid-19th century, thanks in part to the rise of the demi-monde, a class of women who were not considered respectable but who were not prostitutes either. The demi-monde often performed the cancan in cafes and dance halls, and their performances were popular with both men and women.

The cancan also became popular because it was a relatively easy dance to learn. The basic steps involve kicking the legs high in the air, while keeping the body straight and the arms raised. The cancan can be danced solo or in a group, and it is often accompanied by music with a fast tempo.

The cancan's popularity continued to grow in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It was featured in countless stage shows, movies, and television programs, and it became a symbol of French culture. The cancan is still a popular dance today, and it is often performed by dancers of all ages.

In addition to its popularity on stage and screen, the cancan has also been featured in art and literature. Edgar Degas, Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, and other artists have all depicted the cancan in their paintings and drawings. The cancan has also been mentioned in novels and short stories by authors such as Émile Zola and Guy de Maupassant.

The cancan's popularity is due to a number of factors. It is a fun and exciting dance to watch, and it is relatively easy to learn. The cancan is also a symbol of French culture, and it has been featured in art and literature for centuries.

# **Chapter 1: The Cancan Craze**

#### The Cancan's Impact on Society

The cancan was more than just a dance; it was a social phenomenon that had a profound impact on society. The dance's high-energy, provocative movements and revealing costumes challenged traditional notions of femininity and propriety. The cancan also played a role in the development of modern dance and the rise of mass entertainment.

One of the most significant ways that the cancan impacted society was by challenging traditional gender roles. In the 19th century, women were expected to be demure and modest. The cancan, with its high kicks and revealing costumes, flaunted these conventions. The dance allowed women to express their sexuality and assert their independence.

The cancan also had a significant impact on the development of modern dance. The dance's athleticism

and focus on movement for its own sake inspired early modern dance pioneers such as Isadora Duncan and Martha Graham. The cancan also helped to break down the barriers between classical and popular dance, paving the way for the development of new dance forms.

Finally, the cancan played a major role in the rise of mass entertainment. The dance's popularity led to the development of new forms of entertainment, such as the music hall and the cabaret. The cancan also helped to make dance a more accessible form of entertainment for the masses.

The cancan's impact on society is still felt today. The dance continues to be performed by professional and amateur dancers around the world. The cancan is also a popular subject of art, literature, and music. The dance's legacy as a symbol of freedom, rebellion, and joy continues to inspire and entertain audiences of all ages.

This extract presents the opening three sections of the first chapter.

Discover the complete 10 chapters and 50 sections by purchasing the book, now available in various formats.

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