



# Indigenous American Influence and the 1920s Revolution in Women's Clothes: Dance at the Center

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COLLECTION EDITED BY Joseph H. Hancock II

## COLLECTION

Fashion and Personal Style Studies

## EDITION

1st edition

## MARKET

College/higher education and Professional and scholarly

## This course reading...

- Draws from accessible online collections at museums and historical societies.
- Explores the links between Indigenous American clothing, popular and modern dance, and Parisian couture.
- Explores how women's desire for political and personal empowerment was expressed in clothing across time and class.
- Ideal reading for students of Dress History, Dance History, Fashion, Indigenous Studies, Cultural Anthropology, and Politics.

### Did interpretations of Indigenous American dance and dance clothing affect couture in the 1920s and ideas about women's political and personal empowerment?

Drawing from online museum collections and cultural centers, author **Laurie Stepp** investigates vectors between evolving Indigenous American dress, the American market for dance wear, and French couture. Elaborate conventions for women's clothing were swept away in the 1920s and replaced with new codes, expressed in stance and silhouette, color, pattern, and line. How was this influenced by Euro-American interpretations of Native American cultures? How did clothing designed to move in reflect and reinforce the desire for political and personal empowerment for women of the time?

Exploring the themes of Indigenous dance and fashion, feminism, and social structures, this book is ideal reading for students of Dress History, Dance History, Fashion, Indigenous Studies, Cultural Anthropology, and Politics.

**Laurie Louise Stepp** is an independent museum consultant and active multimedia artist.

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