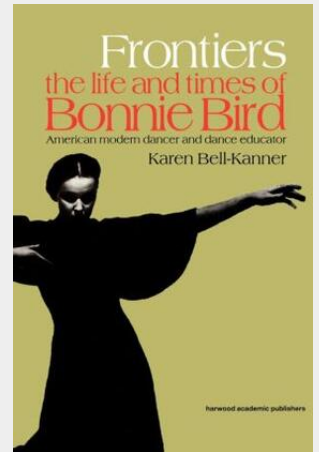


Bell-Kanner

Frontiers

American Modern Dancer and Dance Educator

The daily life of Bonnie Bird, as an American modern dancer in the 1930s, is uniquely revealed in this book. Karen Bell-Kanner shares with the reader her fascinating interviews with Bonnie Bird and the intimate letters that Bonnie Bird wrote to her family in Seattle from New York when she was working with Martha Graham between 1931 and 1937. On her return to the Cornish School of Fine Arts in Seattle as dancer-teacher-choreographer, she had the then novice dancer Merce Cunningham among her students and the young John Cage as her accompanist. In New York again, she developed the popular dance entertainment for children, the Merry-Go-Rounders, in the 1950s. Bonnie Bird's applications of psychology led her to pioneer new concepts and techniques in dance education that have influenced generations of contemporary dance teachers. Her last twenty years were spent at London's Laban Centre for Movement and Dance, where the accomplishments of a lifetime were gathered together to expand the frontiers of



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