

PERFORMANCE AND MODERNITY

How do ideas take shape? How do concepts emerge into form? This book argues that they take shape quite literally in the human body, often appearing on stage in new styles of performance. Focusing on the historical period of modernity, *Performance and Modernity: Enacting Change on the Globalizing Stage* demonstrates how the unforeseen impact of economic, industrial, political, social, and psychological change was registered in bodily metaphors that took shape on stage. In new styles of performance – acting, dance, music, pageantry, avant-garde provocations, film, and digital media – this book finds fresh evidence for how modernity has been understood and lived, both by stage actors, who, in modelling new habits, gave emerging experiences an epistemological shape, and by their audiences, who, in borrowing the strategies performers enacted, learned to adapt to a modernizing world.

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PERFORMANCE AND
MODERNITY

Enacting Change on the Globalizing Stage

JULIA A. WALKER

Washington University in St. Louis



Cambridge University Press
 978-1-108-83306-6 — Performance and Modernity
 Julia A. Walker
 Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

CAMBRIDGE
 UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom
 One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
 314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
 103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.
 It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
 education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
 Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108833066
 DOI: 10.1017/9781108966870

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First published 2021

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ Books Limited, Padstow Cornwall

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

NAMES: Walker, Julia A., 1964– author.

TITLE: Performance and modernity : enacting change on the globalizing stage / Julia A. Walker.
 DESCRIPTION: New York : Cambridge University Press, 2021. | Includes bibliographical references
 and index.

IDENTIFIERS: LCCN 2021019835 (print) | LCCN 2021019836 (ebook) |
 ISBN 9781108833066 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108964333 (paperback) |
 ISBN 9781108966870 (epub)

SUBJECTS: LCSH: Acting–Philosophy. | Human body (Philosophy) | Performing arts–Philosophy. |
 Aesthetics. | Performance art–Philosophy. | BISAC: DRAMA / American / General

CLASSIFICATION: LCC PN2061 .W345 2021 (print) | LCC PN2061 (ebook) | DDC 792.02/801–dc23
 LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2021019835>
 LC ebook record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2021019836>

ISBN 978-1-108-83306-6 Hardback

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This book is dedicated to my teachers and my students

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Acknowledgments

A book of this scope and length could not have been written without tremendous support from colleagues far and wide. Although a mere listing of their names is inadequate to the task of thanking them for their encouragement, I cannot neglect to do that, at the very least. First, I must thank the chairs of the English and Performing Arts departments at Washington University in St. Louis over the past twelve years: Rob Henke, Wolfram Schmidgen, Mark Rollins, Vince Sherry, and Pannill Camp have all been stalwart supporters of this book from beginning to end. The university's Center for the Humanities provided me with a faculty fellowship and a summer research grant for an intensive language tutorial to aid me in writing chapters 4 and 5. A Research Fellowship from the American Society for Theatre Research supported archival work for Chapter 3, allowing me to consult the W. E. B. Du Bois papers at the University of Massachusetts – Amherst and the Percy MacKaye papers at Dartmouth College. Among those who wrote letters of recommendation for me in applying for these and other fellowships are: Martin Puchner, Angela Miller, Penny Farfan, Bruce McConachie, Iris Smith Fischer, Tracy C. Davis, Catherine Prendergast, and Shane Vogel. I greatly appreciate their unwavering belief in this book.

I would also like to thank both colleagues and staff members in the English and Performing Arts departments for providing a rich and vibrant intellectual and artistic environment that nurtured my thinking as this project developed. The staff at the university's Olin Library offered invaluable help. I am especially grateful to Brad Short, Kris Helbling, Melissa Vetter, Masha Sapp, and Micah Zeller for their cheerful assistance throughout the various stages of my research. Colleagues who offered generous advice on specific chapters include Colin Burnett, Reem Hilu, Bill Paul, Gaylyn Studlar, J. Dillon Brown, Steve Zwicker, Miriam Bailin, Guinn Batten, Melanie Micir, Jacob Labendz, Lutz Koepnick, Anca Parvalescu, Patricia Olynyk, Monika Weiss, Liz Childs, Amanda

Acknowledgments

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Beresford, Joanna Dee Das, Christine Knoblauch-O'Neill, Mary-Jean Cowell, Paige McGinley, Henry Schvey, Rhaisa Williams, Todd Decker, Denise Gill, Peter Schmelz, Letty Chen, and Yuqian Yan. Colleagues at other institutions who invited me to present work in progress which provided valuable feedback along the way include: Barbara Ching at the University of Memphis, Leonardo Lisi at Johns Hopkins University, and Derek Miller at Harvard University. Jonathan Glasser at the College of William and Mary graciously read and offered invaluable advice on the late nineteenth-century context of Algerian music for Chapter 3. Other national and international colleagues who invited me to share my work at professional conferences include Soyica Colbert, Dan Smith and Jenny Kokai at ASTR, Glenn Odom and William Burch at ACLA, and Marcello Amalfi at IFTR.

For courage to engage materials not in English and to explore the interplay of meanings between languages in this comparative study, I am indebted to Mary Jo Bang. My thanks to Valeria Souza for an intensive summer tutorial in Portuguese, and to Rane Souza for her invaluable assistance in the archives of Brazil. Many thanks to my neighbor Charles Allen, who warmly offered his expertise in Russian to help me grasp Stanislavsky's associative metaphorical style. And to Corey Twitchell for translating from German the only history of the Norwegian railroad I could find for my research on Ibsen in Chapter 2. Thanks, too, to my colleagues (thanked elsewhere in this note) who checked my translations and transliterations. Any errors are, of course, my own.

Institutions that have graciously allowed me to reproduce images that illustrate my central argument include: Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts for permission to reprint Thomas Sully's portrait of Fanny Kemble that appears in Chapter 1; Boston Public Library, for the balloon map of the Prussian Empire from the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center that appears in Chapter 2 and the Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec poster in Chapter 4; the Folger Shakespeare Library for Julius Kleinmichel's sketch of the Saxe-Meiningen troupe in Chapter 2; the Theaterwissenschaftliche Sammlung at the University of Cologne for the photograph of Rudolf Laban's pageant rehearsal that was to open the 1936 Berlin Olympics in Chapter 3; Chuck Close, Pace Gallery and Pace Prints for permission to reproduce the artist's "Self-Portrait" (2000) in the book's epilogue; and the Victoria and Albert Museum, Lisa Ballard at ARSNY, and ADAGP, Paris for permission to use Valentine Gross Hugo's pastel of *Le Sacre du Printemps* on the book's cover. With many thanks to Freya Levett for arranging this.

For archival assistance in researching this book, I owe thanks to Stephen Robinson in Special Collections and University Archives at the W. E.

B. Du Bois Library at the University of Massachusetts – Amherst, along with Laura Russo in the Howard Gottlieb Archival Research Center at Boston University, Benjamin Brudner at Curry College, Rosalie Gartner at Emerson College, and the Harvard University Archives reference staff for assistance researching Du Bois’s *Star of Ethiopia* and its pageant-master Charles Burroughs; Morgan Swan in the Special Collections Department at the Rauner Library at Dartmouth College and Mrs. Marion MacKaye Ober for permission to quote from the MacKaye family papers; Cláudio Vitena at the Fundação Casa de Rui Barbosa, Bruno Rosa da Silva at VM Empreendimentos, and Carlos Afonso at Toca de Vinícius in Rio de Janeiro, all of whom facilitated my research on Vinícius de Moraes in Chapter 5. Thanks, too, to Cambridge University Press for permission to reprint research published in *Theatre Survey*, and to Taylor and Francis for permission to reprint research published in *Ibsen Studies* and *Studies in Theatre and Performance*. To the anonymous readers of those articles and of this book manuscript I owe a huge debt of gratitude. My thanks especially to Emily Hockley and Kate Brett at Cambridge University Press for believing in this project, to Natasha Burton and Shaheer Husanne for their close attention in shepherding the manuscript through the publication process, to Carol Fellingham Webb for copy-editing, and to Jane Friedman for carefully indexing the manuscript.

From the very beginning of this project, I have had the pleasure of working with graduate students who contributed to its final form in ways both big and small. My sincere thanks to David Roark, Barbara Barrow, Dustin Iler, Katie Collins, Beth Windle, Rachael Servello, Justin Wright, Alex Knapp, and Myles Hesse for all their good work in helping bring this book to completion. Others contributed to the rich conversations that shaped my thoughts on various chapters, including the students in my “Rethinking the Avant-Garde” graduate seminar. Special thanks to my co-teacher in that course, Annelise Wasmoen, who inspired me to begin my own inquiries into the Chinese avant-garde. Thanks, too, to the graduate students in the Mellon Vertical Seminar “Modernism and its Media” and in my “Rethinking Aesthetics” seminar for their help in thinking through ideas that proved foundational to this book.

Friends and family near and far have provided all kinds of moral support during the many years of this project’s completion, including Daphne Mitchell, who graciously hosted me at her Sea Islands, Georgia home while I was researching Fanny Kemble. To her, Marta McKinnon, Andrea Ledvina, and Julie Cambron, I give thanks for many years of warm friendship and restorative laughter. The extended Walker-Maxwell family

Acknowledgments

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has likewise been a source of strong support that surely knows the depths of my gratitude. My words of thanks to Bill Maxwell are inadequate to acknowledge an abiding love that is ever-transforming in the contours of its lived form. The transformation of our son Bix into a young man of intelligence and compassion has been a marvel to behold. To the memory of my father and my mother, I simply acknowledge a debt of gratitude I can never fully repay.