# Akram Khan: Dancing the New Interculturalism and New World Choreographies

Akram Khan is a visionary choreographer and dancer who has redefined the boundaries of contemporary dance.



### Akram Khan: Dancing New Interculturalism (New World Choreographies)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

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Screen Reader : Supported



#### **Early Life and Training**

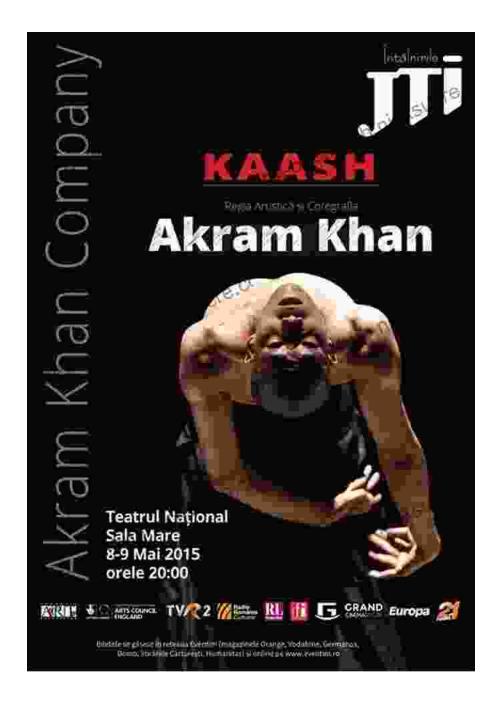
Khan was born in London, England, in 1974 to Bangladeshi parents.



He began studying Kathak, a classical Indian dance form, at the age of seven. He later trained in other dance styles, including flamenco, Bharatanatyam, and Bollywood.

#### **Artistic Breakthrough**

Khan's breakthrough came in 1999 with his solo performance "Kaash," which fused Kathak with contemporary dance. The piece explored themes of love, loss, and longing, and was widely praised for its emotional depth and technical virtuosity.



Akram Khan in his acclaimed solo performance "Kaash".

Following the success of "Kaash," Khan went on to create a series of critically acclaimed works that pushed the boundaries of dance. He collaborated with artists from different disciplines, including musicians, visual artists, and writers.

#### Interculturalism and Fusion

One of the most striking features of Khan's work is its interculturalism. He seamlessly blends elements from different dance forms, creating a unique and expressive vocabulary.

For example, in his piece "Until the Lions," Khan fuses Kathak with flamenco, creating a powerful and evocative exploration of cultural identity and loss.



Khan's work challenges traditional notions of cultural purity and celebrates the richness of cultural exchange.

#### **New World Choreographies**

Khan's work has had a profound impact on the evolution of contemporary choreography. He has helped to create a new generation of choreographers who are pushing the boundaries of the art form.

These choreographers, often referred to as "new world choreographers," are creating works that reflect the diverse and interconnected world we live in. They are exploring themes of cultural identity, globalization, and social justice.

#### **Impact and Legacy**

Akram Khan is one of the most influential choreographers of our time. His work has received numerous awards and accolades, including the prestigious Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production.



Akram Khan being recognized for his contributions to dance.

He has also been a vocal advocate for diversity and inclusion in the arts. He is the founder of Akram Khan Company, a renowned dance company that provides a platform for emerging choreographers and dancers.

Akram Khan is a visionary artist who has transformed the landscape of contemporary dance. His work celebrates the power and beauty of interculturalism and has helped to create a new generation of choreographers who are shaping the future of the art form.

Akram Khan's legacy will continue to inspire and challenge audiences for years to come.

#### References

- Akram Khan Company website
- Interview with Akram Khan in The Guardian
- Review of Akram Khan's "Xenos" in The New York Times



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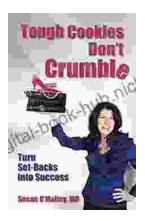
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