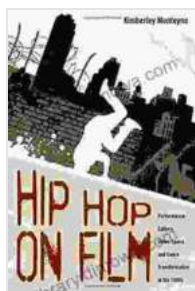


# Performance Culture, Urban Space, and Genre Transformation in the 1980s

In *Performance Culture, Urban Space, and Genre Transformation in the 1980s*, authors Leslie C. Dunn and Nancy A. Naples explore the dynamic relationship between performance, urban space, and genre transformation during the 1980s. Through a series of case studies, the authors examine how performance practices, such as street art, graffiti, breakdancing, and hip-hop music, shaped urban spaces and influenced the development of new genres. The book also explores the role of performance in social and political activism, and its impact on urban landscapes.



## **Hip Hop on Film: Performance Culture, Urban Space, and Genre Transformation in the 1980s** by Kimberley Monteyne

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 574 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 294 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Hardcover	: 256 pages
Item Weight	: 1.19 pounds
Dimensions	: 6 x 0.81 x 9 inches



## **Street Art and Graffiti**

Street art and graffiti emerged as significant forms of expression in the 1980s, transforming urban spaces and challenging traditional notions of art. Artists such as Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat used public spaces as canvases for their work, creating vibrant and often provocative murals that reflected the social and political issues of the time. Graffiti artists, inspired by the hip-hop culture of the Bronx, developed their own unique style of lettering and imagery, which became a powerful form of self-expression for marginalized communities.



## **Breakdancing and Hip-Hop Music**

Breakdancing and hip-hop music emerged from the streets of New York City in the early 1980s, and quickly spread to other urban centers around the world. These performance practices created new forms of social

interaction and community building, and influenced the development of a distinct urban youth culture. Breakdancers used the streets as their stage, developing complex and acrobatic routines that showcased their skills and creativity. Hip-hop music, with its rhythmic beats and socially conscious lyrics, provided the soundtrack to this vibrant urban scene.



Breakdancers showcasing their skills in a street competition.

## **Social and Political Activism**

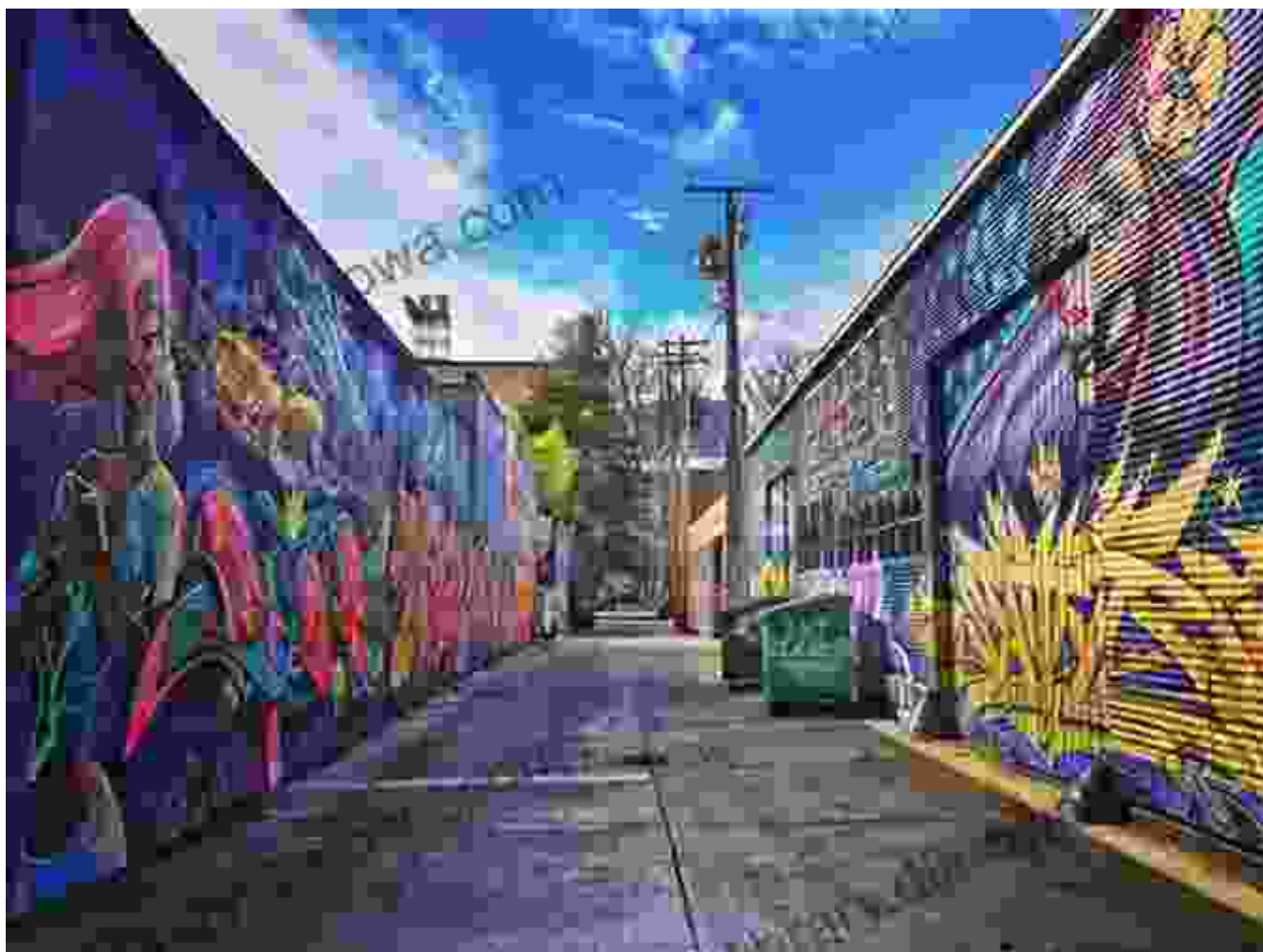
Performance also played a significant role in social and political activism during the 1980s. Artists and activists used performance as a tool to raise awareness of social issues, challenge authority, and mobilize for change. Guerrilla theater groups staged impromptu performances in public spaces, often using humor and satire to critique social and political injustices. Music and performance were also central to the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa, and to the fight for civil rights in the United States.



## Urban Landscapes

The performance practices of the 1980s left a lasting impact on urban landscapes. Street art and graffiti became integral to the visual aesthetic of many cities, and breakdancing and hip-hop music transformed public spaces into vibrant and dynamic social hubs. These performance practices

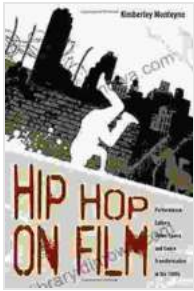
also contributed to the development of new urban identities, and helped to shape the cultural landscape of the 1980s and beyond.



Urban landscape transformed by street art and graffiti.

Performance Culture, Urban Space, and Genre Transformation in the 1980s provides a fascinating and insightful exploration of the dynamic relationship between performance, urban space, and genre transformation. Through a series of case studies, the authors demonstrate how performance practices shaped urban landscapes, influenced the development of new genres, and played a significant role in social and political activism. The book is a valuable resource for scholars of

performance studies, urban sociology, and cultural history, and is essential reading for anyone interested in the transformative power of performance.



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