

DANCE DISCOURSE AND SCRIPTS FOR THE STAGE

VOLUME 2



Edited by
Felix A. Akinsipe

DANCE DISCOURSE

AND SCRIPTS FOR THE STAGE VOLUME 2

Dr Taiye Adebola

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Dance Discourse and Scripts for the Stage is an outlet for the publication of librettos, discourses, critiques, pedagogical notes, scripts, reviews as well as, interviews on dance, scripts and performances. It is published biannually by the Department of the Performing Arts, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria.

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To all readers, performers and choreographers of any of the scripts in this volume you are highly appreciated.

To the Supreme Artist I remain forever grateful.

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August, 2018.

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CHAPTER THIRTEEN

WONDER CHILD (A CHRISTMAS STORY)

TAIYE SHOLA ADEOLA

Dancers

Maria

Liza

Jose

Heavenly Beings

Unborn Children

Movement One

[Maria's house. In a village setting, a house on the stage right depicts a young lady's apartment.]

Maria is seen in a praying dance. She takes the prayer to a very high level. Suddenly some Heavenly Beings enter and take over the dance. She is surprised. They overwhelm her and she falls into trance as they depart. She recovers after a while and discovers that she is pregnant. She becomes afraid and rushes out

Movement Two

[Lisa's house. She is about six months pregnant].

She dances with her maids. Maria comes in and the dance suddenly becomes wild. All the maids go into abstraction and some Unborn Children in different forms come in. They celebrate with Maria and Lisa for some times and depart. Maria, Liza and all the maids are astonished as they could not see the children again. Lisa encourages them all and they dance in.

Movement Three

[Maria's house. She is now about six months pregnant].

Jose comes visiting. They do a duet where Maria tries not to reveal her protruding belly. Jose becomes curious and forcefully turns her around. He becomes disappointed on seeing her state. She begs him but he decides to take his leave.

Just then the heavenly beings appear again and dance with him. At the end they hand over Maria to him. He does a beautiful happy dance with her and they leave.

Movement Four

[In a village square, depicting a festive period].

The villagers enter in groups of various dancers exchanging pleasantries as they settle down. One of them welcomes everyone to the session. He raises a song to which they responded joyfully with dancing. In the midst of the singing and dancing, Maria falls into labour. Everybody scampers around and eventually helps her out.

Movement Five

[A feild]

A group of shepherds who are also fine dancers are celebrating at the end of a day's job. The heavenly beings dance in and involve them in the dance. They lead the shepherds out at the end.

Movement Six

[Kings palace].

The king is being entertained in the palace by his servants. The shepherds dance in. They look around, checking all babies that are carried on stage, everybody joins them not really knowing which they are looking for.

Not finding the baby, the shepherds continue their search out of the stage. The king becomes unhappy and storms out in desperation.

Movement Seven

[The feild].

A group of sick people with different ailments dance to express their disability and pain. The shepherds arrive still searching. One of them sights the star. They are very happy. They encourage the sick people to follow them.

Movement Eight

[The manger].

Maria and Jose receive different sets of dancers to celebrate the birth of their baby. The shepherds arrive with the sick people. They worship the baby in a choreographed dance and present him gifts.

The shepherds then persuade the sick to also worship the baby. As they do they become healed one by one. They are all surprised but happy. Much joy leads to an elaborate dance by the shepherd and the healed.

The End.