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Lauren Miller Griffith
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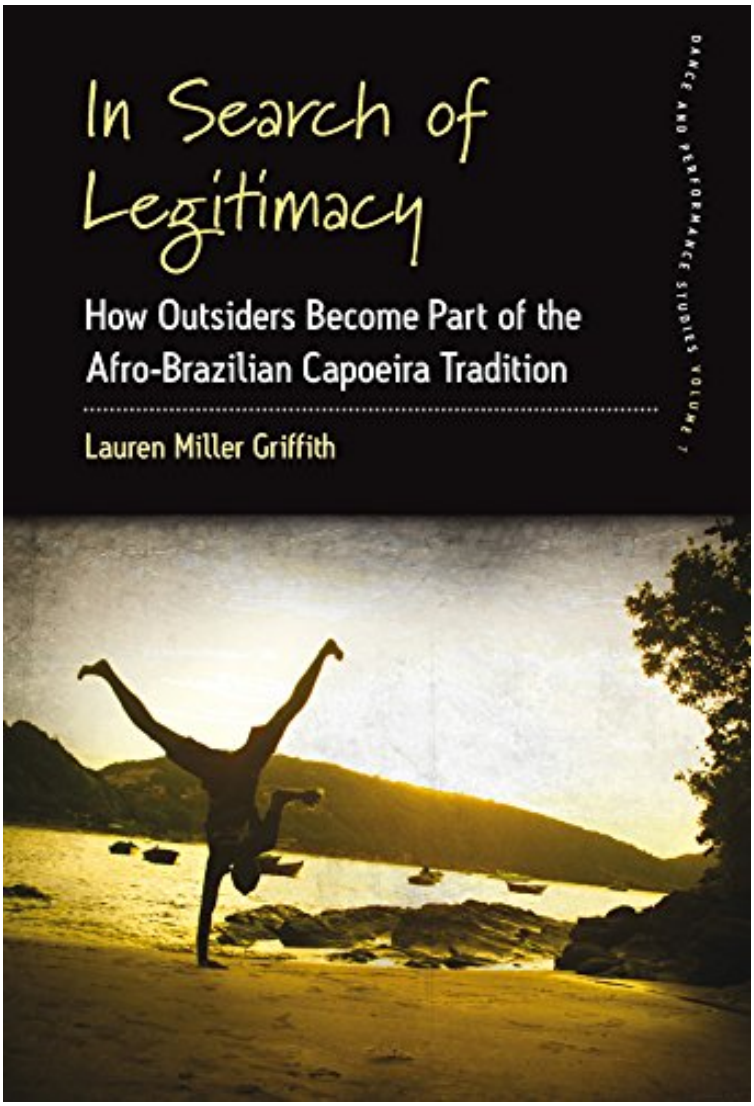

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Lauren Miller Griffith : In Search of Legitimacy: How Outsiders Become Part of the Afro-Brazilian Capoeira Tradition (Dance and Performance Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Search of Legitimacy: How Outsiders Become Part of the Afro-Brazilian Capoeira Tradition (Dance and Performance Studies):

Every year, countless young adults from affluent, Western nations travel to Brazil to train in capoeira, the dance/martial art form that is one of the most visible strands of the Afro-Brazilian cultural tradition. In Search of Legitimacy explores why "first world" men and women leave behind their jobs, families, and friends to pursue a strenuous training regimen in a historically disparaged and marginalized practice. Using the concept of apprenticeship pilgrimage-studying with a local master at a historical point of origin-the author examines how non-Brazilian capoeiristas learn their art and claim legitimacy while navigating the complexities of wealth disparity, racial discrimination, and cultural appropriation.

"...an important study of the confluence of travel and pilgrimage, race/class/gender issues, embodiment and physical (and emotional) expertise, and the defense of tradition and of 'lineage'-specific knowledge and identity in the context of globalization and an openness to (tradition-defined) innovation." middot; Anthropology Database "Lauren Miller Griffith became a cultural pilgrim and put her own body on the line to produce this distinctive, valuable, and very readable contribution to the anthropological research on capoeira. She provides important insights into broad phenomena like cultural pilgrimage, culture tourism, and globalization." middot; Greg Downey, Macquarie UniversityAbout the Author Lauren Miller Griffith is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Hanover College. She studies performance, tourism, and education in Latin America. Her work has appeared in Annals of Tourism Research, the Journal of Sport and Tourism, and Theatre Annual.