

DANCE NOTATION SYSTEMS IN SOUTH KOREA: AN OVERVIEW

ABSTRACT

by

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The purpose of the paper is to provide an introductory overview of the kinds of notational systems that have been used in South Korea to document dance, and to examine the nature, values, and shortcomings of each.

The author begins with pictorial representations of dance in ancient caves, moves on to written and pictorial court documentation, and then to more recent stick-figure systems. She relates the nature of these systems to those described in the works of Ann Hutchinson Guest, and in each instance comments on ways in which these systems have been used. An example is provided to suggest the impact notation has had on contemporary performance.

Analysis of the various systems is based on the authors own research on Korean dance, which includes fieldwork in South Korea.

The presentation is illustrated with slides of the various systems and the dances they document.

(The text of this paper is not included here because of its extensive reliance on visual examples that could not be included. Individuals interested in further details on the topic should contact the author.)