1. Record Nr. UNINA9910964921103321 Autore Hancock Black Hawk <1971-> Titolo American allegory: Lindy hop and the racial imagination / / Black Hawk Hancock Pubbl/distr/stampa Chicago,: University of Chicago Press, 2013 **ISBN** 9780226043104 022604310X 9780226043241 022604324X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (280 p.) Disciplina 305.896/073077311 Soggetti African Americans - Illinois - Chicago - Social conditions - 20th century Dance and race Chicago (III.) - Race relations - History - 20th century Black people - Race identity - Illinois - Chicago - History - 20th White people - Race identity - Illinois - Chicago - History - 20th century Lindy (Dance) - Illinois - Chicago - History - 20th century Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Frontmatter -- CONTENTS -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- PROLOGUE: THIS Nota di contenuto STRANGE DANCE -- LEAD IN: THE COST OF INSIGHT --INTRODUCTION: THE LINDY HOP REVIVAL -- 1. FINDING THE POCKET -- 2. CAUGHT IN THE ACT OF APPROPRIATION -- 3. PUT A LITTLE COLOR ON THAT! -- 4. STEPPIN' OUT OF WHITENESS -- LEAD OUT: LEARNING HOW TO MAKE LIFE SWING -- CONCLUSION: TOWARD NEW TERRITORY -- NOTES -- REFERENCES -- INDEX

Sommario/riassunto

"Perhaps," wrote Ralph Ellison more than seventy years ago, "the zoot suit contains profound political meaning; perhaps the symmetrical frenzy of the Lindy-hop conceals clues to great potential power." As Ellison noted then, many of our most mundane cultural forms are larger and more important than they appear, taking on great significance and

an unexpected depth of meaning. What he saw in the power of the Lindy Hop-the dance that Life magazine once billed as "America's True National Folk Dance"-would spread from black America to make a lasting impression on white America and offer us a truly compelling means of understanding our culture. But with what hidden implications? In American Allegory, Black Hawk Hancock offers an embedded and embodied ethnography that situates dance within a larger Chicago landscape of segregated social practices. Delving into two Chicago dance worlds, the Lindy and Steppin', Hancock uses a combination of participant-observation and interviews to bring to the surface the racial tension that surrounds white use of black cultural forms. Focusing on new forms of appropriation in an era of multiculturalism, Hancock underscores the institutionalization of racial disparities and offers wonderful insights into the intersection of race and culture in America.