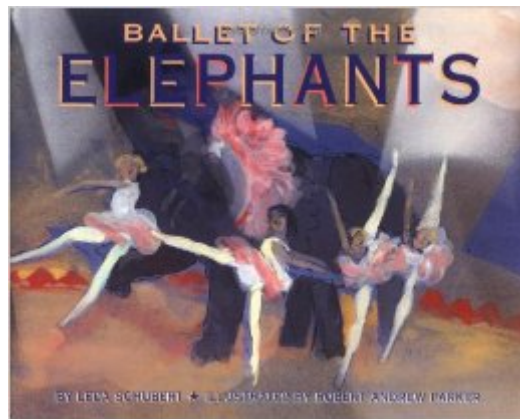


The book was found

Ballet Of The Elephants



Synopsis

Sparkling watercolors-and-ink illustrations dance across the page and spill out onto a horizontal foldout of elephants and ballerinas spotlighted together--in the true story of "Circus Polka," choreographed in 1942 by George Balanchine, with music by Igor Stravinsky and performances by John Ringling North's elephants. Robert Andrew Parker brings his love of theater, dance, and costume to this captivating story. Leda Schubert's background note includes black-and-white photos of the actual performance.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 780L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 34 pages

Publisher: Roaring Brook Press; First Edition edition (April 4, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1596430753

ISBN-13: 978-1596430754

Product Dimensions: 10.4 x 0.4 x 8.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #861,021 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #129 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Drama & Theater](#) #349 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Elephants](#) #453 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool and up

Customer Reviews

This is a wonderful book, and I highly recommend it for children and adults alike. This true story is simply and poetically described, giving very clear and interesting background on historical figures Stravinsky, Balanchine, and John Ringling North. The descriptions and illustrations of the elephant ballet are beautifully done, allowing the imagination to run wild at the thought of circus elephants in tutus, dancing a ballet. A truly magical book.

BALLET OF THE ELEPHANTS by Leda Schubert is a charming book telling the story of three talented men and fifty performing elephants. In April 1942, a unique show opened: Circus Polka, the

brainchild of three men with very different backgrounds: John Ringling North, George Balanchine, and Igor Stravinsky. The book briefly describes the individual lives of the three men, the collaboration between the three men in the creative process, the training of the elephants in preparation for the show, and the show itself. The book concludes with background notes from the author which adds even more interest to the book. For example, the author notes that during her research she learned that "the elephants, even when they retired, so loved the ballet and were so well trained that they performed it all by themselves, without music." There is also a black and white photograph of the real performance!

Gigantic elephants dancing in elegant pink tutus along with human ballerinas sounds like pure fantasy--but it's all true. Considering the great showman, choreographer and composer involved in creating the actual circus show, it couldn't escape being an amazing production. Now it's all documented in a fascinating book, worthy of being appreciated by young and old. **BALLET OF THE ELEPHANTS** is well-written and exquisitely illustrated with dream-like art.

This book arrived on time and in great condition. This book is a wonderful TRUE story about the Ringling Bros. Barnum Bailey Circus 50 elephant ballet that took place in April 1942 near Madison Square Garden. Absolutely a fabulous unsung story.

I was not only delighted with the content of this book (beautifully illustrated) but also with it being in excellent condition although I opted for second hand. My eight year old granddaughter will love it as I do!

The simplicity and clarity of the text encourages wonder and interest. I and everyone I have shared it with love it-- children and adults. The illustrations are fabulous.

This true story is delightful for adults as well as children. Please share this wonderful book with its magical art work with your entire family.

This is a really nice book for my young dancer. The story is very interesting and one that I did not know until we read this book.

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