

For Immediate Release



Halifu Osumare

DANCING THE AFROFUTURE: HULA, HIP-HOP AND THE DUNHAM LEGACY

2024 New York City Book Tour

February 22nd - 28th

Dancer, Black Popular Culture Scholar,
Dance Educator, Choreographer

"An important and rare addition to the future of Black dance history. It will become a vital resource for researchers into dance history, the history of dance studies, and beyond."—**Tara Willis**, curator in performance and public practice, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago

"Osumare returns with yet another striking memoir, expanding our understanding of the history of Black dance at home and abroad. Her writing is a gift to memoir and history lovers alike."—**Takeyah Amin**, director of diversity, equity, and inclusion for the College of Architecture, Arts, and Design, Virginia Tech.

"Part self-reflection and part love song to Dunham, this book is a triumphant look at a dancer's second act as a scholar." — **Jessica Durham**, Library Journal.

Dancing the Afrofuture: Hula, Hip-Hop, and the Dunham Legacy
(ISBN 13: [9780813080345](#)), University Press Florida)

Respected for her work as both professional dancer and trailblazing academic, in [Dancing the Afrofuture: Hula, Hip-Hop, and the Dunham Legacy](#) Halifu Osumare shares experiences from her second career, showing the potential of scholarship to reveal and document underrecognized stories of Black dance and global pop culture. In this memoir, Osumare dances across several fields of study while ruminating on how the Black past reveals itself in the Afro-present that is transforming into the Afrofuture.

Osumare is recognized for her global hip hop studies books, elucidating why hip-hop culture became a global youth phenomenon—*The Africanist Aesthetic in Global Hip-Hop: Power Moves* (2007) and *The Hiplife in Ghana: West African Indigenization of Hip-Hop* (2012),

both published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Osumare 2018 publication of her first memoir *Dancing in Blackness, A Memoir* (University Press of Florida) won the 2019 Selma Jeanne Cohen Prize in Dance Aesthetics, the Before Columbus American Book Award, and Osumare was awarded the Dance Studies Association 2020 Distinction in Dance Award for lifetime achievement in performance, scholarship and service to dance.

Much like her mentor before her, Katherine Dunham, in [Dancing the Afrofuture: Hula, Hip-Hop, and the Dunham Legacy](#), the reader sees clearly the varied ways in which Osumare has dedicated her life to the intersections of the arts and humanities for the crafting and building of a better world, the building of the AfroFuture.

New York City Book Tour - [Dancing the Afrofuture: Hula, Hip-Hop, and the Dunham Legacy](#)

Thursday, February 22, 7:30pm - 9:00pm with [Camille A. Brown – Greenlight Books](#), Brooklyn, New York

Monday, February 26, 11:40am - 12:55pm The Department of Dance and Barnard Center for Research on Women (BCRW) at Barnard College at Columbia University, New York City

Wednesday, February 28, 1:00pm - 2:30pm [New York Public Library Performing Arts](#), New York City

Friday, March 1, 6:30pm - [Sankofa Video Books and Cafe](#), Washington, DC