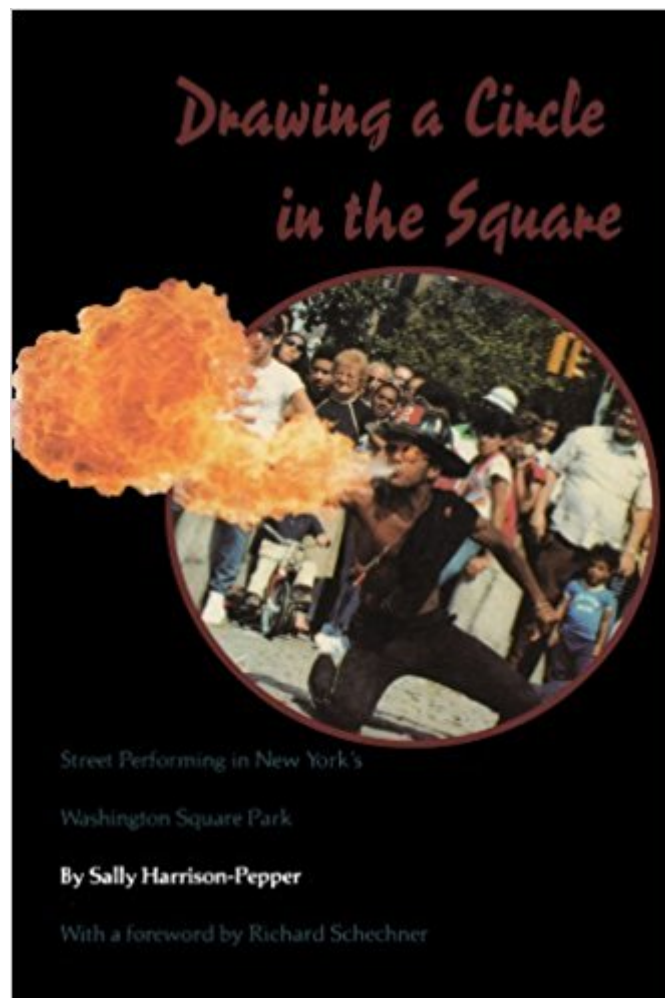




**Ebook Directory**  
the best source of ebook

The book was found

# Drawing A Circle In The Square: Street Performing In New York's Washington Square Park



## Synopsis

This gratifying study of a phenomenon that has imprinted itself upon the folklore of big-city life, is a joyful book focusing upon the street performers in Washington Square Park in New York City. While documenting the complex expressions of street performance in a specific outdoor environment over a period of four years, *Drawing a Circle in a Square* gives a broad examination to the relationship between outdoor performance and urban culture. In this book we learn that most American cities prohibit street performance, charging such entertainers with vagrancy or soliciting, the performer--joyfully, cautiously, heroically--persists. On sidewalks throughout the country, in theaters reduced to their barest essentials, the performer juggles, blows fire, performs magic, and tells jokes, appealing both to our sense of humor and to our longing for a moment of spontaneity in our city--structured lives. *Drawing a Circle in a Square* is the first scholarly documentation and analysis of street performance. Based primarily upon original research, it makes a contribution that is as much toward a particular subject. Promoting the study of performance as an important and valuable vehicle for inter-disciplinary research and thought, it is a model of the kinds of research being developed in the emerging field of performance studies.

## Book Information

Paperback: 180 pages

Publisher: University Press of Mississippi (January 20, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1604735732

ISBN-13: 978-1604735734

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.4 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #4,492,080 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Miming](#) #392 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Circus](#) #1580 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Stagecraft](#)

## Customer Reviews

A scholarly spotlight focused on the performers who enliven the sidewalks of New York

The very idea of this book fascinated me: analyzing street performers to gain insight into the nature

of human performance in other venues. I'd long revered the work of street performers - watching the likes of Butterfly Man in San Francisco, for example - as they engaged their audiences in ways seldom seen on the indoor platform stage. But it took Harrison-Pepper's tome to help me understand intellectually what I had admired viscerally. Her analysis of the street performers in New York's Washington Square Park, conducted over a stretch of four years, captured my imagination and elevated my own sense of what it takes to truly make performances connect. I loved her portrayals of Mitchell Cohen, Charlie Barnett, Chang, the Millses, and the venerable Tony Vera. There is much to be learned from their performances about acting spontaneously and creating sociable environments (from "found space"). Many people would find their jobs enriched if they were to view their work as street theatre; many designers - from web site developers and trade show exhibitors to mall developers and retail store managers - would benefit from understanding Harrison-Pepper's analysis of Star, Funnel, Spiral, and Ring design elements. If you want to be a better performer, you'd do well to read this book.

I came to work Washington Square Park a year after this book was published and it was one of the greatest thrills of my life. This book captures the subtle nuances and politics of the "Carneige Hall" of street performing. The author really got to know the performers and was there long enough to learn what is really happening in this amazing space. I came to know many of the performers in this book and it was a thrill to learn more about their past and inspiration that brought them to this place. Street performing is the ultimate test for any performer. It makes you better by sheer need. I was lucky enough to work the circle in the fountain and will always cherish that memory and the book that brought it all back so vividly. [...]

Harrison-Pepper's descriptions of the performances and players of Washington Square are top-rate, but it's with her analysis of street performance that she really shines. She explains "the street as stage", how the script of such performances is written between the performer and the audience, and how they turn "city space" into "theater place". I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to be a street performer, wants to understand street theatre, or who ever watches such performances and wants to do so from a knowing perspective. And, perhaps amazingly, what Harrison-Pepper writes about has wonderful applications to business. So, whether you're in the business of theatre or the theatre of business, read this book!

Though the book is hopelessly outdated and the author clearly does not write for people outside of

academic and sociological circles, Pepper does come up with some unique insights about street performers and improptu theater. I definitely saw Washington Square Park differently after reading this.

I tried so hard to enjoy this book, but was unable to forgive the author for pretentious overanalysis of street performance. Harrison -Pepper ignores the more juicy issues of class and economics to give us yet another pedantic discourse on the virtues of breaking down the fourth wall.

My name is Peter Shub. I appear throughout the book beginning already on page 1. Was a long time ago that I was a street performer. Was wonderful training and preperation for what followed as a theatre career. Now I am in Germany and hope that Sally finds me again. Could lead to another book...a comicbook.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Drawing a Circle in the Square: Street Performing in New York's Washington Square Park Drawing: Drawing For Beginners - The Complete Guide to Learn the Basics of Pencil Drawing in 30 Minutes (How To Draw, Drawing Books, Sketching, Drawing ... Drawing Girls, Drawing Ideas, Drawing Tool) ANIME Drawing BOX set 5-in-1: Anime Drawing for Beginners, Drawing Anime Faces, Drawing Anime Emotions, Manga Drawing for Beginners, Anime Drawing Practical Guide New York City Travel Guide: 101 Coolest Things to Do in New York City (New York Travel Guide, NYC Travel Guide, Travel to NYC, Budget Travel New York, Backpacking New York) Drawing: Drawing and Sketching,Doodling,Shapes,Patterns,Pictures and Zen Doodle (drawing, zentangle, drawing patterns, drawing shapes, how to draw, doodle, creativity) Drawing: Drawing for Beginners:The Best Guide to Learn How to Draw, Sketch, and Doodle like a Pro in a Few Minutes (sketching, pencil drawing, how to draw, doodle, drawing, drawing techniques) Drawing: Drawing For Beginners- The Ultimate Guide for Drawing, Sketching,How to Draw Cool Stuff, Pencil Drawing Book (Drawing, Learn How to Draw Cool Stuff) Drawing For Beginners: The Ultimate Crash Course on How to Draw, Pencil Drawing, Sketching, Drawing Ideas & More (With Pictures!) (Drawing On The Right ... Analysis, Drawing For Beginners) The New York Times Guide to New York City Restaurants 2002 (New York Times Guide to Restaurants in New York City) ADC Metro Washington District of Columbia Street Atlas: Street Map Book (Adc the Map People Washington D.C. Street Map Book) Anime Drawing Complete Guide: From Simple Sketching to Professional Drawing (Drawing Anime Faces, Anime Emotions, Anime for Beginners from scratch) (Anime and Manga Drawing Lessons Book 1) Drawing For Beginners to Expert: How to Draw Comics (Drawing, Comics, Sketching,

Inking, Doodle Drawing, Drawing Manga, Cartoons) Drawing: The Complete Guide to Drawing, Sketching, Zendoodle & More! (Sketching, Pencil drawing, Drawing patterns) Drawing for Beginners: How to Draw Sea World, Drawing Comics, Drawing Animals, Drawing Cartoons (how to draw comics and cartoon characters Book 11) Cleveland Amusement Park Memories: A Nostalgic Look Back at Euclid Beach Park, Puritas Springs Park, Geauga Lake Park, and Other Classic Parks Metro Washington, D.C., Street Map Book (Add the Map People Washington D.C. Street Map Book) The New York Times Monday Through Friday Easy to Tough Crossword Puzzles: 50 Puzzles from the Pages of The New York Times (New York Times Crossword Puzzles) The New York Times Wonderful Wednesday Crosswords: 50 Medium-Level Puzzles from the Pages of The New York Times (The New York Times Smart Puzzles) The New York Times Smart Sunday Crosswords Volume 6: 50 Sunday Puzzles from the Pages of The New York Times (The New York Times Crossword Puzzles) The New York Times Large-Print Stay Sharp Crosswords: 120 Large-Print Easy to Hard Puzzles from the Pages of The New York Times (New York Times Crossword Collections)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)