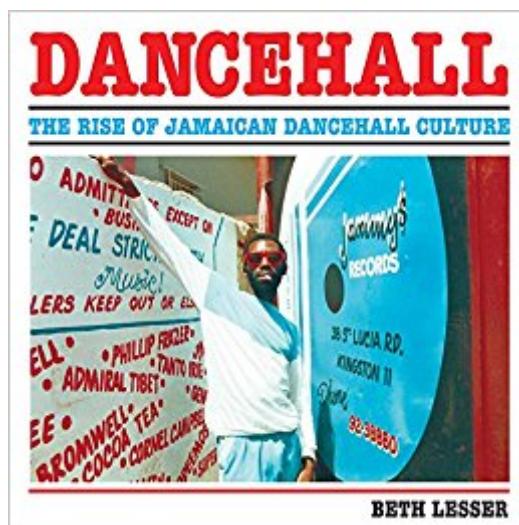


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# Dancehall: The Rise Of Jamaican Dancehall Culture



## Synopsis

This definitive study of the 1980s Jamaican Dancehall scene features hundreds of exclusive photographs and an accompanying text that capture a vibrant, globally influential and yet rarely documented culture that has mixed music, fashion and lifestyle since its inception. With unprecedented access to the incredibly exciting music scene during this period, Beth Lesserâ™s photographs and text are a unique way into a previously hidden culture. Dancehall is at the center of Jamaican musical and cultural life. From its roots in Kingston in the 1950s to its heyday in the 1980s, Dancehall has conquered the globe, spreading to the USA, UK, Canada, Japan, Europe and beyond. This jam-packed visual history tells the story from its roots to its heights from the vantage of the true, respected insider. In the early 1980s, as Jamaica was in the throes of political and gang violence, Beth Lesser ventured where few others dared, and this book is a never-before-seen record of the exciting, dangerous world of Dancehall.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book offers great insight into a culture that still remains largely a homegrown experience. Try as we might, there just is no way anyone can ever fully recreate the sheer explosiveness and creativity that emerged from one tiny likkle island in the Caribbean so many years ago; but it sure is fun to keep a dance yard-style. Sure the dancehall 'style' has been adopted on many a foreign soil, and spawned a multi-million dollar industry (Hip-Hop anyone?), but ah no anyone can do it like they do ina Jamdown. Nor can one ever hope to see such photos unless they're from Yard, or know someone who lived in JA during the 80's. This book is just large. If you consider yourself a

dancehall fan you would do well to get your hands on a copy of this book, fi real. You'll learn a lot.

[...]THE SARTORIALIST Tuesday, January 17, 2012The Reading List... Dancehall love when I find a book that investigates a particular scene or sub-culture. Beth Lesser's Dancehall captures the Jamaican Dancehall culture of the 1980s with the same level of sincerity and curiosity that Brassai exhibited while capturing Paris nightlife in the 1930s.33 commentsPosted in Book Features, Men[...]

Without a doubt one of the most important books published about the history of post independent Jamaican music. Great for the coffee table or the verandah! A copy of this book would be a great educational reference for young Jamaicans especially who have no clue as to that pivotal era in music. The photos capture a wonderful period in Jamaican music. As for the poses you just going to laugh when you see them. How many of us have ever seen photos of artists like Nicodemus, Josie Wales, Yami Bolo, Papa San, Peter Metro, Lone Ranger, Coco Tea, Sister Nancy etc in the prime? Every library in Jamaica should have a copy. Be warned - its a very weighty book! But you will enjoy :-)

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