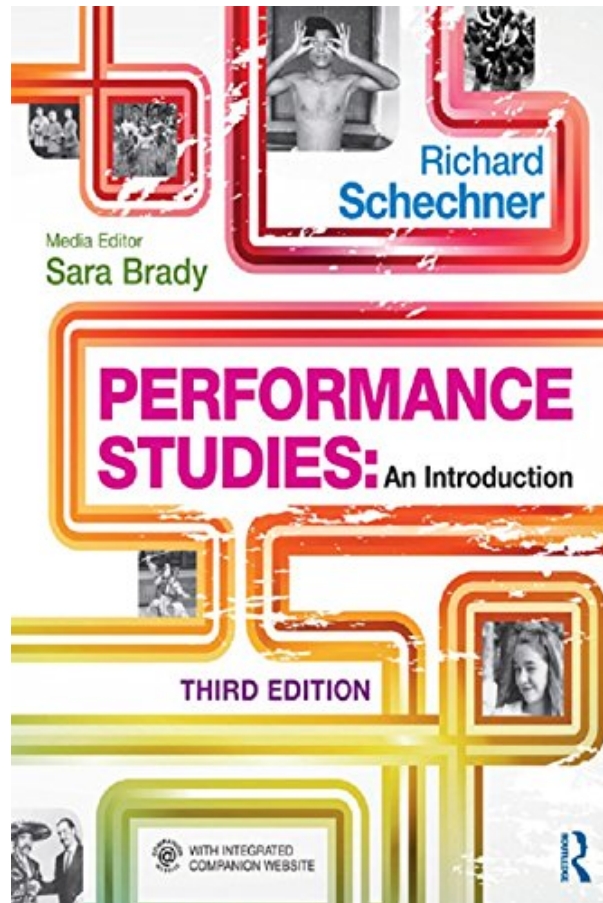
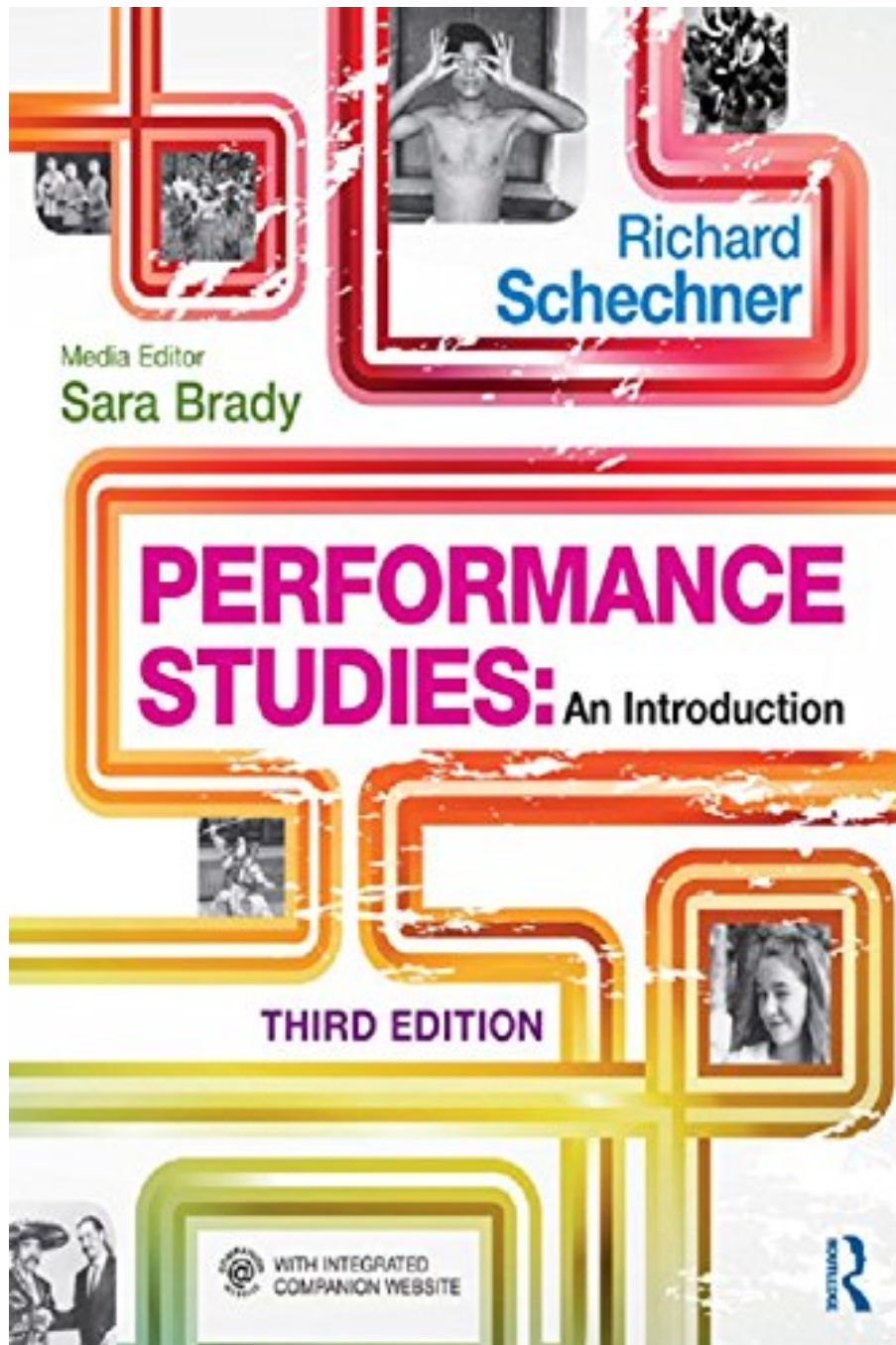


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The publication of *Performance Studies: An Introduction* was a defining moment for the field. Richard Schechner's pioneering textbook provides a lively and accessible overview of the full range of performance for undergraduates at all levels and beginning graduate students in performance studies, theatre, performing arts, and cultural studies. Among the topics discussed are the performing arts and popular entertainments, rituals, play and games, and the performances of everyday life. Supporting examples and ideas are drawn from the social sciences, performing arts, poststructuralism, ritual theory, ethology, philosophy, and aesthetics.

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The book itself has also been revised, with 25 new extracts and biographies, up-to-date coverage of global and intercultural performances, and further exploration of the growing international presence of Performance Studies as a discipline.

Performance Studies is the definitive overview for undergraduates, with primary extracts, student activities, key biographies and over 200 images of global performance.

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By the end of the book, which is probably more useful as a reference than even as a textbook that students read chapter by chapter (though it does offer great possibilities for creatively integrating in the classroom as it was intended), one has more questions than answers, and that is a good thing, because the questions become more focused and more relevant and more conducive to individual introspection. As a college professor in Theatre, I find that refreshing and valuable.

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