

dancers could

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engage the largely taboo black music in a space easily entered and

space where white listeners and

exited, both literally and figuratively.







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## Beach Music History & Myth....cont'd

Following Hanna's loading of the Tijuana Inn's piccolo with African ambitious entrepreneurs opened their own "jump joints" up and down within weeks. These venues were bare-bones affairs, often consisting of and, most importantly, a jukebox that, for a nickel, would play the popusic of the day. These jukeboxes were frequently chained to the floor to stealing the money or, more significantly, the records. While Hanna's drinking-age crowds with access to black jump blues, these anonymous vided underage kids with a way to participate with the African American at once taboo and coveted. (Editor note: drinking age for beer was

the Carolina Beach strand a tin roof, a dance floor, lar African American muprevent patrons from Tijuana Inn first provided beach establishments promusic and dance that was 18)

American music, other

The income from the provided Hanna with the Tijuana Inn into a dance ground zero for further liams and Sticks McGhee, Houserockers, and the burdance with relatives in othemphasis on smooth, glidmy; the acronym stands for



newly thriving Tijuana Inn, in combination with his enterprising nature, resources to convert a former bowling alley across the street from the hall, which he christened Bop City. The new establishment served as Caucasian exploration of African American artists such as Paul Wil-white artists playing black music such as Jimmy Cavallo and The geoning dance movement called the Shag. Shag is a couples-based er swing dances such as the Lindy Hop and the Big Apple, and strong ing technique. As CAMMY (the Beach Music equivalent of the Gram-"Caroling Music Music Nears") award winning Beach Music

Jim Hannah and Frances Carter just bet they were married July 24, 1948.

my; the acronym stands for "Carolina Magic Music Years") award-winning Beach Music DJ and historian 'Fessa John Hook explains, "In the old stories, the great shaggers on the Grand Stand

would wear a cashmere sweater on July 4th and dance out on the deck at the Myrtle Beach Pavilion with their sleeves rolled up, and never break a sweat. [Some dancers] could put an open beer on top of their head and do a drop spin and never spill a drop."



Over the course of the next three years, white establishments in coastal towns such as Atlantic Beach,

North Carolina, and Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach, Folly Palms, all in South Carolina, began to play black R&B, which was jump blues genre, on their piccolos. According to Hook, white North bers at this time vocally associated the emergent black R&B sounds such as Carolina and Myrtle Beach because establishments in these the music available for white consumption in a guilt-free environ-

By 1965 participants and observers began to call it "Beach Music," referred to popular black music of the day and was

referred to poptaboo R&B that as early as 1948. American music it in the neon-lit



Jim Hanna was importing to the predominantly Caucasian establishments on the strand Hook makes an absolutely crucial distinction between openly seeking taboo African on one's home turf, potentially inviting judgment and even requital, and stumbling upon beach town pleasure palaces.

## Part 2 next month





Beach, and the Isle of quickly emerging out of the Carolinian audience memwith vacation destinations beach environs first made ment.

a term that simultaneously applied retroactively to the



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## Use It or Lose It: Dancing Makes You Smarter by Richard Powers Part 3:

At this point, I want to clarify that I'm not demonizing sequence dancing, or style-focused pattern-based ballroom dancing. Although they don't have much influence on cognitive reserve, there are stress-reduction benefits of any kind of dancing, cardiovascular benefits of physical exercise, and even further benefits of feeling connected to a community of dancers. So all dancing is good. But when it comes to preserving (and improving) our mental acuity, then some forms are significantly better than others. While all dancing requires some intelligence, I encourage you to use your full Intelligence when dancing, in both the Lead and Follow roles. The more decision-making we can bring into our dancing, the better. Who benefits more, women or men? In social dancing, the Follow role automatically gains a benefit, by making hundreds of split-second decisions as to what to do next, sometimes unconsciously so. As I mentioned earlier, women don't "follow", they interpret the signals their partners are giving to them. This requires intelligence and decision-making, which is active, not passive. This benefit is greatly enhanced by dancing with different partners, not always with the same fellow. With different dance partners, you have to adjust more and be aware of more variables. This is great for staying smarter longer. But men, you can also match her degree of decision-making if you choose to do so. Here's how:

1) Really pay attention to your partner and what works best for her. Notice what is comfortable for her, where she is already going which signals are successful with her and which aren't, and constantly adapt your dancing to these observations. That's rapid-fire, split-second decision making.

## Part 4 (Final part) next month



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