

“Becket’s saga epitomizes the eternal struggle of the artist for personal expression.”

— CHICAGO TRIBUNE

**Autobiography, Dance, Art**  
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# TO DANCE ON SANDS

## THE LIFE AND ART OF DEATH VALLEY’S MARTA BECKET

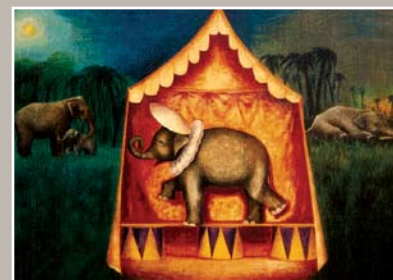
The only time she felt free was when she was dancing. Then, one day, in the middle of Death Valley, it appeared to her like a dream. A beautiful theater that no one wanted . . .

*To Dance on Sands* is the long awaited autobiography of Marta Becket, artist, dancer, performer. From her childhood in bohemian New York of the 1920s and 30s to her career as a successful painter, dancer, and chorus performer on Broadway and television, Becket tells, in quirky, honest prose, the story of the many ups and downs she faced living a life in the arts and of her eventual artistic rebirth as the owner, choreographer, and star performer for almost 40 years at the

Amargosa Opera House in Death Valley Junction, California.

*To Dance on Sands* is the story of a fiercely independent woman driven by her creative muses to live life very much on her own terms. From the glitz of New York to performing before a hand-painted audience in a remote ghost town, Marta Becket’s tale will appeal to dance and theater enthusiasts or to anyone interested in following their muse—no matter where it takes them.

- National newspaper ad campaign
- Broadcast media and print interviews
- Color photo section features Marta Becket’s art and performance stills



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### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marta Becket was born in 1924, in New York City. As a dancer she appeared on Broadway, TV and countless small venues across America.



As a painter, Becket has been the subject of retrospective art exhibits in New York and Nevada.

In 1967, Becket moved to Death Valley Junction, eventually bought the abandoned theater, and has lived there ever since, putting on productions of her own original “dance mimes.” Becket’s career at the Amargosa Opera House has been the subject of numerous news articles and magazine features. In 2000, *Amargosa*, a film by Todd Robinson about Becket and her theater, was nominated for an Academy Award in the Best Documentary category.

MARTA BECKET  
 DEATH VALLEY JUNCTION, CALIFORNIA

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