

## THEATER: A PATHFINDER

The purpose of this pathfinder is to provide you with an overview of the variety of sources pertaining to the theater available to you. Some of the materials are books, in which case they are located in the BCC Library. References are also made to magazine indexes and selected Internet sites. Sometimes you will see two spellings for the word, theater (also theatre). This is not a spelling error. Some publishers use the British/French spelling of the word. If you would like assistance using these resources, please ask a member of our reference faculty for help.

### Reference Collection

The following are representative titles of works located in the Reference Room.

- Ref. Bordman, Gerald. American Musical Theatre: A Chronicle. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.  
ML Oxford, New York: Oxford UP, 2001.  
1711 Spans more than 250 years providing a vast  
.B67 perspective on the history of musical theatre. The book is  
2001 organized in chronological format with indexes by song, show and  
people.
- Ref. Bordman, Gerald Martin. The Oxford Companion to American  
PN Theatre. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Oxford UP, 1992.  
2220 Presents in an alphabetical arrangement a guide to the  
.B6 American stage from its beginnings to the present. Entries  
1992 include playwrights, plays, actors, directors, producers and much  
more.
- Ref. The Cambridge Guide to Theatre. Ed. Martin Banham.  
PN New York: Cambridge UP, 1995.  
2035 An alphabetical index to the history and practice of  
.C27 theatre in all parts of the world.  
1995
- Ref. The Concise Oxford Companion to the Theatre. Ed. Phyllis  
PN Hartnoll and Peter Found. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Oxford UP,  
2035 1992.  
.C63 This work is international in range and provides  
1992 information on directors, dramatists, theatre styles, lighting, sound,  
method acting and more.
- Ref. Contemporary Dramatists. 6<sup>th</sup> ed. New York: St. James Press,  
PR 1999.  
737 Provides biographical, bibliographical information and  
.C57 brief critical essays on selected English-language dramatists.  
1999 A title index is included.

- Ref. Gänzl, Kurt Friedrich. The Encyclopedia of the Musical Theatre.  
 ML 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: Schirmer Books, 2001.  
 102 Entries are arranged alphabetically in 3 volumes.  
 .M88 Gives summary of plot along with dates and places of the  
 G3 first productions of the show.  
 2001
- Ref. Moston, Doug. Coming to Terms with Acting, An Instructive  
 PN Glossary. New York: Drama Book, 1993.  
 2061 A glossary of classic terms and concepts  
 .M67 used in acting. Some of the entries can be quite lengthy with  
 1993 suggested exercises; i.e. classic sense memory exercises.

### Books and Audiovisual Materials

The online public access catalog (OPAC) provides a listing of all books (both circulating and reference) and audiovisual materials owned by the Learning Resources Center. When you search by subject, title or keyword, don't forget to include both spellings of the word for theatre (theater). A few of the subjects relating to theater that can be searched are:

Acting--Auditions	Monologues
American Drama	Playwriting
Costume—United States	Theater or Theatre
Drama	Theaters—Stage-Setting and Scenery
Dramatists	

If you need more help thinking of related subjects, consult Library of Congress Subject Headings, the red books that sit on the lectern in the reference room, or ask a librarian.

- PN By Actors, for Actors: A Collection of Original Monologues and  
 2080 Scenes. Ed. Catherine Gaffigan. New York: Excalibur,  
 .G34 1991.  
 1991
- PN Contemporary American Monologues for Men. Ed. Todd London.  
 2080 New York: Theatre Communications Group; St. Paul, MN:  
 .C645 Consortium Book Sales and Distribution, 1998.  
 1998
- PN Even More Monologues for Women by Women. Ed. Tori Haring-  
 2080 Smith. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann, 2001.  
 .M5475  
 2001

- PN Holloway, John. Illustrated Theatre Production Guide. New  
2085 York: Focal Pr., Elsevier Science, 2002.  
.H64  
2002
- PN Outstanding Stage Monologs and Scenes From the 90's:  
2080 Professional Auditions for Student Actors. Ed. Steven H.  
.O88 Gale. Colorado Springs, CO: Meriwether, 2000.  
2000
- PN Parker, W. Oren, R. Craig Wolf, and Dick Block. Scene Design  
2091 and Stage Lighting. 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/  
.S8 Thomson Learning, 2003.  
P3  
2003
- PR Shakespeare, William. The Riverside Shakespeare, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.  
2754 Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1997.  
.E9 An informative anthology compendium of  
1997 Shakespeare's works with notes clarifying terminology  
and illustrations. There is an introduction to twentieth-century  
criticism.
- PN Stell, Joseph W. Scenery: Design and Fabrications. Studio City,  
2091 CA: Players Pr., 2001.  
.S8  
S73  
2001

## Periodical and Periodical Indexes

The Library offers online access to magazine indexes. Reach all online indexes through the library home page: <http://www.sunybroome.edu/~library>. If you search from home, you will need to enter your BCC computer account number. The indexes referred to below can be reached from the library home page.

EBSCOhost: Within EBSCOhost, Academic Search Elite may be chosen to search for sources on theater, eg. play reviews and criticism. Much of the database provides the full-text of articles.

### Literature Resource Center:

You can access biographies, bibliographies, and critical analyses from every age and literary discipline. Includes full-text of Twain series, Contemporary Authors, and other print literary reference works.

## Newspaper and Newspaper Indexes

The New York Times is an excellent source for theater reviews and articles. Current issues are available in the Magazine Room. Older issues of the New York Times are available on microfilm going back to 1950.

Articles from the New York Times can be found in a variety of ways:

- Browse current issues
- Use the New York Times Index volumes (very comprehensive, and goes back to 1962)
- Go online with EBSCOhost (accessed via the Web) for indexing.

## Web Sites

American Variety Stage

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/vshhtml/vshome.html>

A multimedia anthology selected from various Library of Congress holdings. Theater playbills, English playscripts, information on Houdini, and more. Covers 1870-1920.

A Brief Guide to Internet Resources in Theatre & Performance Studies

[http://www.stetson.edu/departments/csata/thr\\_guid.html](http://www.stetson.edu/departments/csata/thr_guid.html)

A gateway to sites covering such topics as actors and acting, stagecraft and technical theatre, plays and playwrights, and much more.

The Costume Site

<http://milieux.com/costume/>

A large collection of web sites related to theatrical costumes, including ethnic clothing, sites to museums of clothes and accessories.

Infomine – Visual & Performing Arts

<http://infomine.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/search?arts>

Contains references to visual arts and all performing arts including music, drama, and theater. Guides to museums, galleries and regional culture are also present. Librarians have contributed to building Infomine.

International Theatre Design Archive

<http://www.siue.edu/ITDA/>

Produced by United States Institute for Theatre Technology. Contains examples of scene designs, costume, and lighting designs by title, playwright, designer and producer. Click on the smaller pictures to see an enlarged version.

Introduction to Greek Stagecraft

<http://didaskalia.berkeley.edu/stagecraft/greek.html>

Provides diagrams of the Theater of Dionysus at Athens. Contains links to Greek dramatists: Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides. Links to "Roman Stagecraft" and "Introduction to Ancient Theater."

Mr. William Shakespeare and the Internet

<http://shakespeare.palomar.edu>

An annotated guide to the scholarly Shakespeare resources available on the Internet.

Playbill On-line

<http://www.playbill.com>

Broadway and Off-Broadway listings. Information on London Theatre.

Shakespeare's Monologues

<http://www.shakespeare-monologues.org/> Enables you to search monologues by gender. It gives the location within the play where the monologue is found. You can then choose a play by category: comedy, history, and tragedy. You can then choose a character in a particular play.

## **Reference Faculty**

If you have any questions or cannot locate the information you need, please stop by the reference desk. BCC's reference librarians will be glad to assist you.

Deborah L. Spanfelner /ck

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