



## POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE: REFERENCE & INSTRUCTION FOR THEATRE STUDIES

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### Resource List

The specific resources listed below are just a sampling of what's available and recommended. All call numbers are approximate. # indicates an online/electronic resource. √ indicates primary source materials are available within that resource.

#### A) REFERENCE MATERIALS

##### General:

- Continuum Companion to Twentieth-Century Theatre / PN2035 .C65
- Critical Survey of Drama / PN1625 .C68
- Dictionary of the Theatre: Terms, Concepts & Analysis / PN2035 .P2913
- The Dramatists Sourcebook / PN2289 .D73  
*Published annually (purchase every 3-5 years). Guidelines & addresses for script submissions.*
- International Dictionary of Theatre / PN2035 .I49
- McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of World Drama / PN1625 .M3
- # Oxford Encyclopedia of Theatre & Performance / PN2035 .O94
- The Reader's Encyclopedia of World Drama / PN1625 .G3
- Theatre Directory / PN2289 .T54  
*Published annually (purchase every 3-5 years). Lists personnel & contact info for US not-for-profit theatre companies by name, state, budget size, and special interests. Also lists theatre-related orgs.*
- Theatre research resources in New York City / PN2289 .T545
- World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre / PN1981 .W67

##### Play Indexes:

- Actor's Guide to Scenes: An Index of 600 Scenes from Classical & Modern Plays / PN1655 .G78
- Chicorel Theater Index to Plays... / PN6111Z .C52; PN6120 .A5Z; Z5781 .C485
- Guide to Monologues, Men: An Index of over 800 Monologues... / PN2080 .G84
- Guide to Monologues, Women: An Index of over 800 Monologues... / PN2080 .G85
- Masterplots II – Drama Series. / PN6112.5 .M37  
*The drama geeks' Cliffs Notes!*
- Ottemiller's Index to Plays in Collections / PN1655Z .O8
- # Play Index / Z5781 .P53  
*Search by playwright, play title, subject matter, and casting needs. Published every 5 years, this set of books creates a comprehensive list of play anthologies and their contents, including play titles, authors, brief synopses, play length, casting analysis and set needs. Available online from H.W. Wilson.*

- Plays for Children and Young Adults: An Evaluative Index and Guide / PN1627 .K37

### **Free, Online Indexes**

- # Inter-Play : [www.lib.pdx.edu/systems/interplay](http://www.lib.pdx.edu/systems/interplay)  
Search by author first & last, and by source and play title keyword.
- # Morton Grove Public Library Play Index: [www.webrary.org/ref/searchplays.html](http://www.webrary.org/ref/searchplays.html)

### **People:**

- The Broadway Design Roster: Designers and Their Credits / PN2096.A1 O93
- Fifty Key Theatre Directors / PN2053 .F54
- Who's Who in Contemporary World Theatre / PN2035 .W485

### **Thematic/Genre:**

- Bibliography of Medieval Drama / PN2152Z .S78
- Crowell's Handbook of Classical Drama / PA3024 .H35
- The Reader's Encyclopedia of Shakespeare / PR2892 .C3
- International Guide to Children's Theatre and Educational Theatre... / PN3157 .I58

### **Musical Theater**

- American Song: The Complete Musical Theatre Companion / ML128 .M78 B6  
*Four volume set includes Tin Pan Alley songs indexed by title, composer, and year.*
- The Broadway Song Companion: An Annotated Guide to Musical Theatre Literature by Voice Type and Song Style / ML128 .M78 D48
- Broadway Sheet Music: A Comprehensive Listing..., 1918-1993 / ML128 .M78 S78
- A Chronology of American Musical Theater / ML1711.8 .N3 N67  
*Original production details, cast lists, act breakdowns with settings and musical numbers.*
- The Encyclopedia of the Musical Theatre / ML102 .M88 G3

### **Cultural & Minority Groups:**

- The Cambridge Guide to African and Caribbean Theatre / PN2969 .C36
- The Cambridge Guide to Asian Theatre / PN2860 .C35
- The Cambridge History of British Theatre / PN2581 .C36
- Encyclopedia of Latin American theater / PQ7082 .D7 E63
- The Gay & Lesbian Theatrical Legacy: A Biographical Dictionary... / PN2286.5 .G38
- German Theatre: A Bibliography from the Beginning to 1995 / Z2234 .D7 P379
- A Guide to Ancient Greek Drama / PA3131 .S83
- Irish Playwrights, 1880-1995: A Research and Production Sourcebook / PR8789 .I67
- She Also Wrote Plays: An International Guide to Women Playwrights... / PN6119.8 .C76

### **Production:**

NOTE: Research in design is where art librarians can really exercise their image-finding skills—"What women wore in France in the 1500s," "Interior design of a NY deli during the Depression," etc.

- 20,000 Years of Fashion: The History of Costume and Personal Adornment / GT510 .B6713
- Backstage Handbook: An Illustrated Almanac of Technical Information / PN2091 .S8 C32  
*The Swiss Army knife of theatre handbooks!*
- The Complete Fashion Sourcebook / GT596 .P393
- Encyclopedia of Clothing and Fashion / GT507 .E53
- An Illustrated Dictionary of Historic Costume: From the First Century B.C.... / GT510 .P48

- The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Costume and Fashion: From 1066 to the Present / GT720 .C37
- The Mask Handbook: A Practical Guide / PN2071.M37 W55
- Stage Management (by Lawrence Stern) / PN2085 .S77  
*The bible for stage managers, in its 8<sup>th</sup> edition. How-to guides, forms and professional anecdotes.*
- The Stagecraft Handbook / PN2091 .S8 I65
- Survey of Historic Costume: A History of Western Dress / GT580 .T67
- Theatre Backstage from A to Z / PN2091 .M3 L68
- Theatrical Costume, Masks, Make-up and Wigs: A Bibliography and Iconography / PN2067 .J68

## B) BOOKS, ETC...

Many of the publishers below offer books in more than one category, but are listed in their strongest.

### √ Scripts (includes "acting editions," anthologies, and scores)

#### US

- Broadway Play Publishing
- Dramatic Publishing Company
- Dramatists Play Service
- Samuel French
- TCG Publications

#### UK

- Faber & Faber (Highlight: Faber Contemporary Classics series)
- Methuen Drama
- Nick Hern
- Oberon Books

#### Other

- Currency Press (Australia)
- Playwrights Canada Press (Canada)

### Children's/Youth Theater

In LC Subject Headings, there is no distinction between theater for children and theater by children.

- Anchorage Press Plays
- Baker's Plays
- Big Dog Plays
- I. E. Clark Publications
- New Plays for Children
- Pioneer Drama Service

### Musical Theater

Most, if not all, musicals cannot be purchased. Instead, they are rented for performance only.

- Hal Leonard (Sheet music)
- Sheet Music Plus  
*www.sheetmusicplus.com*  
*A wide selection of Broadway musical scores.*
- Music Theatre International
- R&H Theatricals
- Tams-Witmark Music Library

## √ # Online Full-Text Drama Collections

### **ProQuest**

- American Drama  
*Full text of 1500 works of American dramatic literature from 1714 to 1915.*
- Editions and Adaptations of Shakespeare  
*Includes the complete text of eleven major editions of Shakespeare's works, from the First Folio (1623) to the Cambridge edition of 1863-6. It also includes twenty-four separate contemporary printings of individual plays, selected apocrypha and related works, and more than 100 adaptations, sequels, and burlesques from the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries.*
- English Prose Drama  
*Full text of over 1800 plays written in prose for the stage, from the Renaissance to the end of the 19th century.*
- English Verse Drama  
*2,200 works by over 500 named authors and over 300 anonymous works, 1400-1900.*
- Twentieth-Century Drama  
*2,500 plays in English from around the world from the 1890s to 2003. Unlike other drama collections available today, it features mostly copyright texts unavailable elsewhere in electronic form including many out-of-print works that are difficult to obtain.*

### **Alexander Street Press**

Full text plays; includes biographical information on authors.

- Asian American Drama [252 full text plays, 1891-2004]
- Black Drama - 1850 to Present [1206 full text plays]
- Latino Drama [380 full text plays, 1875-2005]
- North American Women's Drama [1021 full text plays, 1714-2005]
- Twentieth Century North American Drama [834 full text plays, 1889-2005]

### **Free, Online Texts**

- Alex Catalogue: [www.infomotions.com/alex](http://www.infomotions.com/alex)
- Complete Works of Shakespeare: <http://shakespeare.mit.edu/works.html>
- Electronic Text Center: <http://etext.lib.virginia.edu>
- The Online Books Page: <http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/subjects.html>
- Project Gutenberg: [www.gutenberg.org](http://www.gutenberg.org)

## History & Analysis; Biographies, Memoirs, & Interviews

- Applause Theatre
- Gale Research (Browse by Subject > Arts & Humanities. Highlight: Drama Criticism series)
- McFarland & Co.
- Palgrave Macmillan (Highlight: Palgrave Studies in Theatre & Performance History)
- Peter Lang Publishing
- Routledge
- University Presses: Oxford, Cambridge, Michigan, etc.

## Production

### **Costume & Fashion**

- Berg Publishers
- Chelsea House
- Dover Publications

- Fairchild Books
- Lavolta Press
- Schiffer Books
- Skira (Highlight: “A World of...” Series: necklaces, belts, bracelets, etc.)
- Taschen
- Thames & Hudson

### **Design, Directing & Acting**

Books of interest to architecture, interior design, and graphic design students would be equally of interest to scenic and lighting design students.

- Broadway Press
- Focal Press
- Greenwood Publishing
- Heinemann Drama
- Meriwether Publishing
- Smith & Kraus
- Theatre Organizations: USITT, Society of British Theatre Designers, TCG, etc.
- W.W. Norton (Highlight: “Surfaces” series and “Trompe L’Oeil” series)

## **C) JOURNALS/PERIODICALS**

### **Theatre Studies/Theatre History Journals**

- Fashion Theory
- Theatre History Studies
- Theatre Journal
- Theatre Research International
- Asian Theatre Journal
- TDR: The Drama Review

### **Stagecraft / Trade Publications**

- ✓ \* American Theatre  
*Interviews with practitioners & playwrights, feature stories, industry news, production photos, and performance schedules. Each issue also includes a full-length play script.*
- \* Back Stage East & Back Stage West  
*Weekly publication. Includes job listings for all areas of production. Website updated daily.*
- ✓ LiveDesign (formerly known as TCI: Theatre Crafts International)
- Plays: The Drama Magazine for Young People
- Stage Directions
- Variety

### **Newspapers / Popular Magazines**

Good for production reviews, essays, and interviews.

- Entertainment Weekly
- Los Angeles Times
- New York Times
- New Yorker
- Newsweek
- Time
- The Times (London)
- Wall Street Journal

## D) INDEXES/DATABASES (LICENSED CONTENT)

### Theater Specific

- A Guide to Critical Reviews. / PN2266Z .S16  
*Index to reviews of New York City productions published in U.S. and Canadian periodicals.*
- How to Locate Reviews of Plays and Films: A Bibliography of Criticism from the Beginnings to the Present. PN 1707Z .S36  
*A guide for locating theater and film criticism in print sources prior to 1976.*
- National Theatre Critics' Reviews (formerly New York Theatre Critics' Reviews)/ PN1601.N4  
*Facsimile reviews of New York and regional productions culled from U.S. newspaper, 1940-1996.*
- **Gale Literary Criticism**
  - Some content from these resources is available full-text in the database "Literature Resource Center."
  - An index of all Gale literary criticism series is available FREE online, via Gale's Literary Index: <http://www.galenet.com/servlet/LitIndex>  
KEY SERIES:
    - Drama Criticism / PN1724 .D72
    - Literature Criticism from 1400 to 1800 / PN86 .L56
    - Nineteenth-century Literature Criticism / PN761 .N5
    - Shakespearean Criticism / PR2965 .S43

### # International Bibliography of Theatre & Dance (EBSCO)

*"...Multicultural and inter-disciplinary research tool... Comprises a fully indexed, cross-referenced and annotated databank of 60,000 journal articles, books, book articles and dissertation abstracts on all aspects of theatre and performance in 126 countries. Available with or without full text. Full text contains more than 100 periodicals and more than 100 books.*

### # International Index to the Performing Arts (Chadwyck-Healey)

*1864-present; Available with or without full text. Covers more than 140 international periodicals (including New York Times and Washington Post) covering nearly all aspects of the world of performing arts. Most records in the current file (1998-) contain an abstract.*

### # North American Theatre Online (Alexander Street Press)

*Contains 40,000-plus pages of in-copyright reference texts, semantically indexed and cross-searchable; Posters, playbills, photos, architectural images, floor plans, and other ephemera; Links to hundreds of editorially selected theatre Web resources; and Reference information detailing people, plays, theatres, and more.*

### # The Shakespeare Collection (Gale)

*Brings together general reference data, full-text scholarly periodicals, reprinted criticism, primary source material (Photographs, diaries, line drawings, maps, illustrations) and the full-text annotated works from The Arden Shakespeare collection.*

### # Theater-related content

We recommend the following databases to students doing Theatre-related research.

- America: History & Life
- ARTstor
- Avery Index to Architectural Periodicals
- Early English Books Online (Chadwyck-Healey)
- Historical Abstracts
- JSTOR
- Literature Resource Center (Gale)
- MLA International Bibliography

- New York Times Historical Newspaper (ProQuest)
- Project MUSE
- Readers Guide Retrospective (H.W. Wilson)
- Shakespeare Collection (Gale)
- SIRS Renaissance
- Times (London) Digital Archive (Gale)

## E) AUDIO-VISUAL

- Amazon.com (for Broadway cast albums)
- √ Films for the Humanities & Sciences
  - [www.films.com](http://www.films.com) (look under Literature & Language Arts > Drama)
- Insight Media

### # √ Theatre in Video (Alexander Street Press)

*Offers more than 500 hours of online streaming video: television broadcasts of New York productions in the 50s, contemporary revivals of classic works and experimental performances from the 60s and 70s. These are the actual original productions, captured and recorded while performed for a live theatre audience.*

### Accents & Dialects

- Dialect Accent Specialists
- The Dialect Resource

### Sound Effects

- BBC Sound Effects Library  
*60 CDs with every sound imaginable. Available from Films for the Humanities & Sciences.*

## F) # WEBSITES (FREE CONTENT)

### General Theatre

- <http://lecatr.people.wm.edu/booksfortheatre.html>
- American Theatre Wing: [www.americantheatrewing.org](http://www.americantheatrewing.org)  
*Parent organization for the Tony Awards.*
- ArtsLynx, Theatre Resources: [www.artslynx.org/theatre/](http://www.artslynx.org/theatre/)
- Association for Theatre in Higher Education: [www.athe.org](http://www.athe.org)
- Internet Broadway Database: [www.ibdb.com](http://www.ibdb.com)  
*The 'IMDb' for Broadway and Tony-eligible theatre productions.*
- Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas: [www.lmda.org](http://www.lmda.org)
- Playbill: [www.playbill.com](http://www.playbill.com)
- TCG: [www.tcg.org](http://www.tcg.org)  
*National organization for the American, regional (not-for-profit) theatre. Online subscription includes access to ARTSEARCH job listings and 'American Theatre' archives.*
- Virtual Library, Theatre and Drama: [www.vl-theatre.com](http://www.vl-theatre.com)  
*A portal for international, theater-related websites. Some parts of the site are incomplete, out-of-date, and even inaccurate. However, other parts provide access to obscure resources you may not find listed elsewhere, such as "Theatre Image Collections Online."*

### **Song Indexes online**

- Arizona State Library: [www.asu.edu/lib/resources/db/songindx.htm](http://www.asu.edu/lib/resources/db/songindx.htm)
- California Library System: [www.sjvls.org/songs/sng\\_web.html](http://www.sjvls.org/songs/sng_web.html)
- Los Angeles Public Library: [www.lapl.org/resourcs/indexes/allsong.html](http://www.lapl.org/resourcs/indexes/allsong.html)
- Music Library Association: [www.lib.duke.edu/music/sheetmusic/collections.html](http://www.lib.duke.edu/music/sheetmusic/collections.html)
- Sheet Music Consortium: <http://digital.library.ucla.edu/sheetmusic/>
- University of Tennessee: [www.lib.utk.edu/music/songdb/](http://www.lib.utk.edu/music/songdb/)

### **Musical Theatre websites**

- Carnegie Mellon Library: [www.library.cmu.edu/research/arts/drama/musitheat.html](http://www.library.cmu.edu/research/arts/drama/musitheat.html)
- MIT Lewis Music Library: <http://libraries.mit.edu/guides/subjects/music/musicaltheater.html>

### **Production: Acting, Directing, Stage Management, Design, etc.**

- Actors' Equity Association (Union for Actors & Stage Managers): [www.actorsequity.org](http://www.actorsequity.org)
- International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees: [www.iatse-intl.org](http://www.iatse-intl.org)
- International Dialects of English Archive: <http://web.ku.edu/idea/>
- The Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers: [www.ssd.org](http://www.ssd.org)
- United Scenic Artists (Scenic, costume, lighting designers, and stage artists): [www.usa829.org](http://www.usa829.org)

### **Theater History**

- Theatre History on the Web: [www.videoccasions-nw.com/history/jack.html](http://www.videoccasions-nw.com/history/jack.html)
- TheatreHistory.com: [www.theatrehistory.com](http://www.theatrehistory.com)