Theatre Reference Guide

This guide is designed to help you find information about theatre topics. Use this as a starting point or browsing tool. As always, consult library catalogs for complete holdings information, and when uncertain, ask for help! Related reference guides include Accents, Finding Play Scripts and Monologues, Finding Songs from Musicals, Musical Theatre, and Performing Arts Careers.

Call Numbers for Browsing - Below are general call number ranges. More details at: http://goo.gl/ALzqn.

PA3024-8595 literary aspects of drama/theater
PN1-PZ10 theatre (comprehensive range)
PN1581 criticism
PN1601-1919 drama
PN1621 collections of plays
PN1625 drama dictionaries
PN1720-1861 drama history
PN2053 directing
PN2055-2073 acting
PN2067 costumes
PN2068 make up
PN2080 monologues (selections for practice)
PN2085-2096 lighting, stage craft, scenery and set design
PN2100-3030 theatre history
PN2205-2217 biographies
PN4305.M6 monologues
PN6111-6120 collections of plays
PO1-3999 French language plays*
PO4000-5999 Italian language plays*
PO6000-8999 Spanish language plays*
PR English plays
PS American plays (North America)
PT1501-2688 German language plays*

*Includes some works translated into English.

Subject Headings for Searching Library Catalogs - To find material on a topic, type in one of these subject headings to get a list of relevant titles. Access KentLINK subject heading search @ http://goo.gl/gtAvO.

Acting, Actors, Actresses, Costume, Costume design, Drama, Drama -- History and criticism, Drama -- Study and teaching, Dramatists, Improvisation (Acting), Monologues, Plays, Stage lighting, Stage props, Theater, Theater -- History, Theater -- Study and teaching, Theater -- United States*, Theater -- United States -- History*, Theaters -- Stage setting and scenery, Theatrical makeup

*United States is used for purposes of illustration; may also use England, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, etc.

Journals (listed alphabetically)

American Theatre, Comparative Drama
Essays in Theatre
Journal of American Drama and Theatre
Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism

Nineteenth Century Theatre and Film
Theatre Notebook
Theatre World

Contact Us:
(330) 672-2004
performingartslibrary@kent.edu
www.kent.edu/library/performingarts
### Selected Print Titles (listed alphabetically)

**American Playwrights: 1880-1945**  
Ref. Z1231.D7 A52 1995

**American Playwrights: Since 1945**  

Detailed lists of all established playwrights from 1880 to 1989. Entries include a short biography, list of major works, plots and production history, and information about lesser known works.

**The Cambridge Guide to American Theatre**  
Encyclopedia on theatre in America, from the Civil War to present day.  
Ref. PN2221.C36 2007

**Critical Survey of Drama**  
PN1625.C74 1986 v. 1-6

Compilation of biographical, artistic, and analytic information about the most prominent authors and playwrights of drama and dramatic criticism from foreign countries.

**Dictionary of the Theatre: Terms, Concepts, and Analysis**  
Ref. PN2035.P2913 1998

Defines theatrical terms that can be heard or studied in acting techniques, dramatic conventions, historical theatrical movements and technical aspects of theatre.

**The Encyclopedia of Vaudeville**  
Ref. PN1968.U5 S37 1994

Defines and describes influences on and aspects of American Vaudeville of the 1800-1930’s. Includes terms, conventions, contributors, performers and producers on the American Vaudeville scene.

**Encyclopedia of World Drama**  
Ref. PN1625.M3 1984 v. 1-5

Describes all noteworthy aspects and movements of drama and the performing arts from every different culture.

**International Dictionary of Theatre**  
Ref. PN2035.I49 1992 v. 1-3

Defines, indicates criticisms, and offers information about the plays, playwrights, and artists who have made contributions to theatre internationally.

**The Oxford Dictionary of Plays**  
Ref. PN1625.P38 2005

Defines, describes and indicates the impact of 1,000 selected plays on world drama.

**The Oxford Encyclopedia of Theatre & Performance**  
Ref. PN2035.092 2003 v. 1-2

Describes people, places, techniques, performance styles, plays and contributions to world theatre and performance.

**The Ultimate Scene and Monologue Sourcebook**  

Actor’s guide to 1000+ monologues/scenes from 300+ contemporary plays. Lists scenes by gender, age & nationality.

**The World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre**  
Ref. PN2035.W67x 1996 v. 1-6

Includes important facts, contributions, developments, and history of theatre in all countries in the world where drama exists as part of the culture.

**Note:** Reference titles (“Ref.”) are non-circulating and are located in the Performing Arts Library Reading Room.

### Electronic Research Databases

Use this link for the following online theatre databases: [http://goo.gl/xZHDq](http://goo.gl/xZHDq)

- Find Articles - American Drama, Design and Applied Arts Index, English Verse Drama, International Bibliography of Theatre & Dance, JSTOR, MLA International Bibliography, Play Index, etc.

### Internet Resources (All links below are live @ [http://goo.gl/4QDyi](http://goo.gl/4QDyi))


Costume Society of America: [http://www.costumesocietyamerica.com/](http://www.costumesocietyamerica.com/)


Theatre Communications Group: [http://www.tcg.org/](http://www.tcg.org/)