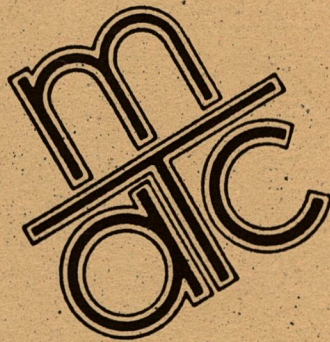


**19th Annual  
Mid-America Theatre  
Conference  
1999**

**March 11-14**

**Radisson Metrodome  
Minneapolis, Minnesota**



**THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM  
MATC Celebrates the Fin-de-Siècle**

**DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM  
Working Relations in the Theatre**

**PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM  
The Playwright and the Dramaturg**

**YOUNG SCHOLARS SYMPOSIUM**

## MID-AMERICA THEATRE CONFERENCE OFFICERS 1999

### President

Lynn-Steven Johanson, Western Illinois University, Macomb,  
Illinois

### Vice-President

William Sonnega, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

### Secretary

Jonathan Chambers, St. Lawrence University, Canton, New York

### Treasurer

Rhona Justice-Malloy, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant,  
Michigan

## CONVENTION OFFICIALS

### Program Chair

William Sonnega, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

### Theatre History Symposium

William Sonnega, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

Elizabeth Reitz Mullenix, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois

### Directing Symposium

Mary Cutler, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North  
Dakota

Matt Bliss, Fairmont State College, Fairmont, West Virginia

### Playwriting Symposium

David A. Rush, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois

### Young Scholars Symposium

Dorothy Chansky, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New  
Mexico

### Auditions

Julia Curtis, University of Nebraska at Omaha

### Production Workshops

## MATC FELLOWS

Arthur Ballet, 1988  
Jed Davis, 1988  
Patricia McIlrath, 1988  
Charles Shattuck, 1990  
Ron Engle, 1993  
Burnet Hobgood, 1994  
Glenn Q. Pierce, 1997  
Julia Curtis, 1999

## MATC INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Bradley University  
Central Lakes College  
Central Michigan University  
Cumberland County Playhouse  
DePauw University  
Eastern Illinois University  
Emporia State University  
Graceland College  
Illinois State University  
Loras College  
Marshall University  
Northern Iowa Community College  
Pittsburgh State University  
Southwest Missouri State University  
St. Ambrose University  
St. Cloud State University  
St. Olaf College  
University of Illinois at Urbana  
University of Missouri at Columbia  
University of Nebraska-Kearney  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
University of Northern Iowa  
University of South Dakota  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

## MATC Schedule March 11-14, 1999

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION Main Lobby

March 11, 3:00-9:00 pm  
March 12 & 13, 7:00 am-4:00 pm

### PROGRAM LOCATIONS

**H** *THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM*  
Sessions will be held in President's Room

**D** *DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM*  
Sessions will be held in Regent's Room

**P** *PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM*  
Sessions will be held in Collegiate Room

Note: Auditions, Interviews and Audition Workshops will be held in Big Ten, Alumni and Rotary Rooms, respectively. Design/Tech interviews will be held Sunday morning in Alumni Room.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 11

3:00-4:15 pm

**D** *DIRECTOR'S COLLOQUIUM I: AN OPEN FORUM*

### WORKING RELATIONS: CURRENT TRENDS IN THEATRE TRAINING

Panelists: YOU!

Moderators: Mary Cutler, University of North Dakota; Matt Bliss, Fairmont State College (WV)

Session 1: 4:30-5:45 pm

**H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

**TROUBLING THE SPECTATOR/SPECTACLES OF TROUBLE**

Chair: Elizabeth Reitz Mullenix, Illinois State University

Stephan Berwind, Louisiana State University  
*Horror and Humor in Charles Ludlam's Salammbô*

Patricia Ybarra, University of Minnesota  
*Violent Hope at the Century's End: Reza Abdoh's Theatre of Extreme Gestures*

**D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

**CURRICULAR & PERFORMATIVE CHALLENGES I**

Chair: Mary Guzzy, University of Colorado-Denver

Layne Ehlers, Bethany College  
*Working Relationships in Theatre at Small Liberal Arts Colleges: Challenge, Collaboration and Compromise*

Rhea Lehman, University of Kentucky  
*Emerging Forms: Staging New Works in Diverse Contexts*

Kathleen McLennan  
*Staging Dancing at Lughnasa*

Session 2: 7:30-8:45 pm

**H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

**GRADUATE STUDENT DEBUT PANEL**

Chair: Dorothy Chansky, University of New Mexico

Dawn Larsen-Nicely, Southern Illinois University  
*The Canvas Cathedral: Anthropological Analyses Used to Acclimatize Audiences to Reconstructions of Historic Toby Shows*

Rebecca Howard, Miami University of Ohio  
*The Native American Women Playwrights Archive: Adding Voices*

M. Shane Grant, Miami University of Ohio  
*The Spectacle of Hate: Lynching in United States Society and its Drama*

**D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

**MADONNAS IN MILK BOTTLES: IN SEARCH OF A ROOT PERFORMANCE LANGUAGE**

Chair: John C. Green, Butler University (IN)

Polona Baloh-Brown, GREDA Productions (UK)  
John C. Green, Butler University

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

7:45-8:45 am

**D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

**TEXTUAL DISCOURSES**

Chair: Alan Klem, Creighton University (NE)

Herbert Sennett, Louisiana College  
*Developing the Poet's Eye (Problem's in Presenting Post-Modern Plays in an Educational Theatre Setting)*

Roger Bechtel, Cornell University  
Tracey Rhys, Cornell University  
*The Politics of Collaboration: Reconstructing Brecht in Performance*

Session 3: 9:00-10:00 am

**MATC 1998 KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Joe Dowling, Artistic Director, The Guthrie Theatre, Minneapolis

9:30-10:45 am

**P** PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

**THE COMPANY CREATED WORK: THE GOLUM AND OTHER JEUNE LUNE PRODUCTIONS**

Chair: Judith Zivanovic, Kansas State University

Robert Rosen, Founding Member, Theatre de la Jeune Lune

10:15-11:30 am

**D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

**A CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSIONAL THEATRE ARTISTS FROM MINNEAPOLIS**

Chair: Jean Thomsen, Arizona State University

Panelists: Steven Yoakam, Shawn Judge, Joey Babay, Cathy Fuller, T. Michael Rambo, Patty Neiman

Session 4: 11:00 am-12:15 pm

**H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

**THE FIN-DE-SIÈCLE MISE EN SCENE [RE]CONSIDERED**

Chair: Julia Curtis, University of Nebraska

Dorothy Chansky, University of New Mexico  
*"Thinking Makes It So": Views and Uses of Shakespeare at the American Fins-de-Siècle, 1900/2000*

Jane Barnette, University of Texas  
*The Interdependence of American Railroads and Theatre at the Turn of the Century: The Case of Greene's Opera House*

Tice Miller, University of Nebraska  
*Tocqueville, Democracy, and the American Theatre in 1999*

Session 5: 1:30-2:45 pm

**H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

**MIRRORING LIFE/LIFE IN THE MIRROR**

Chair: John Poole, Illinois State University

Marc Gordon, Tufts University  
*Salvaging Strasberg at the fin de siècle*

**D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

**THE NEED FOR A BLACK THEATRE COMPANY**

Chair: Mary Jo Sodd, Central College  
Panelist: Lou Bellamy, Artistic Director, Penumbra Theatre Company, St. Paul, Minnesota

**P** PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

**ASSISTING PLAYWRIGHTS: THE PROGRAMS OF THE PLAYWRIGHTS CENTER**

Chair: Judith Zivanovic, Kansas State University  
Carlo Questa, Executive Director, Minneapolis Playwrights Center

Session 6: 3:00-4:15 pm

**H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

**POSTMODERN ETHICS AND AESTHETICS**

Chair: Mark Hillenbrand, Ball State University

Klaus Van den Berg, University of Tennessee  
*Elfriede Jelinek's Image of the Vampire: The Return of Fin de Siècle Horror in Postmodern Aesthetic*

Les Wade, Louisiana State University  
*Reflections on Postmodern Ethics: Community and Remembrance in Patrick Marber's Closer*

## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **TERRY TEMPEST WILLIAMS' REFUGE: THE DEEP ECOLOGY OF A COLLABORATION**

Chair: Robert A. Hetherington, University of Memphis

Gloria Baxter, University of Memphis  
Susan Chrietzberg, University of Memphis  
Pam Gross, University of Memphis

## **P** PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

### **DEVELOPING PLAYS FOR YOUR CONSTITUENCY: COMMISSIONED AND COMPANY CREATED SCRIPTS FOR CHILDREN'S THEATRE**

Chair: Judith Zivanovic, Kansas State University

Elissa Adams, Director of New Play Development, Children's Theatre Company, Minneapolis

Session 7: 4:30-5:45 pm

## **H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

### **QUEERING THE THEATRE THROUGH FIN-DE-SIÈCLE LENS**

Chair: Fergus G. Currie, Illinois State University

Mark Fearnow, Penn State University  
*Let's Do It: The Layered Life of Cole Porter*

Al Wertheim, Indiana University  
*Dorothy's Friend in Kansas: The Gay Inflections of William Inge*

Robert A. Schanke, Central College  
*Say What You Will About Mercedes de Acosta*

## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **CROSS-GENDER PERFORMANCE**

Chair and Panelist: Mary L. Cutler, University of North Dakota

Sandra Lindberg, Illinois Wesleyan University  
Mary Guzzy, University of Colorado-Denver  
Darin Kerr, University of North Dakota  
Gill Wright Miller, Denison University (OH)

## **P** PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

### **NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT AT PENUMBRA AND ILLUSION THEATRES**

Chair: Art Borreca, University of Iowa

Laurie Carlos, Literary Manager, Penumbra Theatre  
Michael Robbins, Artistic Director, Illusion Theatre

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

Session 8: 8:00-9:15 am

## **H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

### **MILLENNIAL IMPULSES**

Chair: Mark Mallet, Morehead State University

William Grange, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
*The Conquest of "Blue Eyes": Meinhard and Bernauer's Triumph of Modernism in Berlin*

Scott T. Cummings, Boston College  
*Sebastian Barry and the Play of History*

Dan Friedman, Dramaturg for the Castillo Theatre  
*Models of Non-Profit Theatre Funding in the United States in the 20th Century and the Emergence of a Democratic Model for the 21st.*

## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **TEXTUAL RELATIONS**

Chair: Norman Schroder, Bethany College (KS)

Shirley A. Huston-Findley, Miami University (OH)  
*Staging Machinal: Exploring Connections Between Theory and Praxis*

Andrea Nouryeh, St. Lawrence University (NY)  
Jonathan Chambers, St. Lawrence University  
*Watch Out, Shifting Paradigms!/: Recklessly Redefining the Director/Dramaturg Collaboration in Academic Theatre*

**Session 9: 9:30-10:45 am**

## **H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

### **ENGAGING INTERDISCIPLINARITY**

Chair: Elizabeth Reitz Mullenix, Illinois State University

Adrienne E. Hacker Daniels, St. Olaf College  
*"Thought" in the Theatre in the 21st Century*

Attilo A. Favorini, University of Pittsburgh  
*Dramatic Models for Herman Melville's Billy Budd: The Euthanasia of Narrative*

## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **DIRECTING CHALLENGES THROUGH CULTURAL ADAPTATIONS**

Chair: Monica Anderson, Franciscan University (OH)

Daniel R. Nadon, Kent State University  
*Our Contemporary Creatures: A Frankenstein for the 90's*

Mary Jo Sodd, Central College  
*Finding Space for Corsets and Fans Amidst Cornfields*

## **P** PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

### **COLLABORATION ON NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT**

Chair: Lynn-Steven Johanson, Western Illinois University

Jack Reuler, Artistic Director, Mixed Blood Theatre  
Phil Jones, Playwright, Mixed Blood Theatre

**Session 10: 11:00-12:15 am**

## **H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

### **IRRECONCILABLE RECONCILIATIONS**

Chair: Robert A. Schanke, Central College

Jonathan Chambers, St. Lawrence University  
*"The Dilemma of Commitment": John Howard Lawson's Marching Song*

Penny Farfan, Northwestern University  
*"If I were only a dancer I would not speak": Feminism, Tragedy, and the Case of Isadora Duncan*

Beth Cleary, Macalester College  
*"White Race Treason in Performance at Century's End: Fe/Males, Slaughterhouses, and Hip Hop"*

## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **DANGEROUS NOTIONS: ISSUES IN CENSORSHIP AND INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM**

Chair: Monica Fay Anderson, Franciscan University

Julie Patterson-Pratt, University of Minnesota-Morris  
Mary Callahan Boone, Bowling Green State University  
Mary L. Cutler, University of North Dakota  
Teresa Durbin, Bowling Green State University  
Twig Webster, University of Minnesota-Morris

**P** PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

**INSTITUTIONALIZING DRAMATURGY?**

Chair: Judith Zivanovic, Kansas State University

Michael Lupu, Dramaturg, The Guthrie Theatre

**Special "Brown Bag" Session: 12:15-1:30 pm**

**H** YOUNG SCHOLARS SYMPOSIUM

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT DEBUT PANEL**

Chair: Dorothy Chansky, University of New Mexico

Peach Pittenger, Smith College

The Cherry Orchard: A Carefully Constructed Vaudeville

Carl Martin, Central College

Queer Talkback in Ludlam's Camille

**Session 11: 1:30-2:45 pm**

**H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

**NEW CENTURIES/NEW WOMEN**

Chair: Adrienne Hacker Daniels, St. Olaf College

Ann Fox, Washington University in St. Louis

*"Impulses Towards Sanity": Rachel Crothers and Feminist Playwriting for a New Century*

Carol Schafer, Penn State Beaver

*Chekhov's Women: Braving Transitions, Confronting Innovations*

Yvonne Shafer, St. John's University

Joan of Arc in the Harvard Stadium

**D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

**PUBLIC PERSPECTIVE AND THEATRICAL PRACTICE**

Chair: Herbert Sennett, Louisiana College

Robert A. Hetherington, University of Memphis

*Private Process, Public Product: Waiting for Godot at The Stratford Festival 1996*

Durand L. Pope, University of Akron

James Slowiak, University of Akron

*Putting a Public Face on Performance Research*

**P** PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

**CASE STUDY: WORKING WITH THE WRITER ON A NEW SCRIPT--NOTES ON THE UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE**

Chair: Lynn-Steven Johanson, Western Illinois University

Todd Irvine, Playwright

John Ursu, Director/Dramaturg, The Playwrights Center

**Session 12: 3:00-4:15 pm**

**H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

**RE[PRE]SENTING THE APOCALYPSE**

Chair: William Sonnega, St. Olaf College

Benjamin Wyskida, St. Mary's College

*Stop the World, I Want to Get Off: Apocalypse, Abandonment, and Environmentalism in Three Postmodern Dramas*

Andrew Kimbrough, Louisiana State University

*Just Say Know: A Consideration of Aesthetics and Theatre Practice at the End of a Brave Old World*

Gregory Kable, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

*Books of Revelation*



## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **EXISTENTIAL/CRITICAL PEDAGOGY/DANCE IMPROVISATION (A Workshop Session)**

Chair: Mary L. Cutler, University of North Dakota

Gill Wright Miller, Denison University (OH)  
*Existentialism: Teaching Theory Via Dance*

## **P** PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

### **WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? PLANNING THE PLAYWRIGHTS' SYMPOSIUM FOR MATC 2000**

Moderators: Judith Zivanovic, Kansas State University  
Lynn-Steven Johanson, Western Illinois University  
Art Borreca, University of Iowa

Session 13: 4:30-5:45 pm

## **H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

### **TOWARDS A TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY THEATRE DEPARTMENT**

Chair: Karen Wilson, St. Olaf College

Jennifer Jones, Louisiana State University  
*Planting the Grass Roots: A Hopeful Proposal for Theatre  
Activism in the 21st Century*

Joanne Klein, St. Mary's College of Maryland  
*Toward Reconstituting Theatre Studies in a Liberal Arts  
Environment: A Downsized, Upgraded Appropriation of the  
Performance Studies Model*

Fergus G. Currie, Illinois State University  
*Administering the Department of Theatre: Challenges in the  
21st Century*

## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **UNDERGRADUATE PRODUCTIONS THAT NEED A DIALECT: EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VOICE/SPEECH PROFESSIONAL AND THE DIRECTOR**

Chair and Panelist: Sandra Lindberg, Illinois Wesleyan University

Laura Ledford-Pearson, Millikin University  
Susan Coromel, University of Evansville

6:30 pm

### **EVENING BANQUET**

**H. H. H. Room**

Keynote Speaker: Herbert Blau, University of Wisconsin-  
Milwaukee

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

Session 14: 8:00-9:15 am

## **H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

### **FIN-DE-SIÈCLE ANXIETIES**

Chair: Tom Wolt, Simpson College

David Schulz, Independent Scholar  
*The Patriarchy's Worst Nightmare: Herbert Beerbohm  
Tree's Production of Nero (1906)*

Melissa Gibson, University of Pittsburgh  
*Goodbye to All That: Fin-de-Siècle British Theatre History*

## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **CURRICULAR & PERFORMATIVE CHALLENGES II**

Chair: Andre Sedriks, Wayne State College (NE)

Mark Cosdon, Colby College

*Production as Part of the Curriculum: Susan Glaspell's  
Alison's House*

Nancy Hovasse and Bruce Halverson, University of Illinois  
*Directing Plays with Deaf Characters*

Matt Bliss, Fairmont State College

*Directing Intercultural and Interdisciplinary Performance*

**Session 15: 9:30-10:45 am**

## **H** THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

### **A FIN-DE-SIÈCLE CONVERSATION**

Chair and Coordinator: Rhona Justice-Malloy

August Staub, Head Emeritus, University of Georgia

R. Keith Michael, Chair Emeritus, Indiana University

Dean Carol Brandt, Southern Methodist University

Oscar G. Brockett, Distinguished Professor, University of Texas

Vera Mowry Roberts, Distinguished Professor and Chair Emeritus,  
Hunter College, CUNY

## **D** DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

### **COLLABORATIONS AND DIALOGUES IN DIRECTING**

Chair: John Chase Soliday, University of Miami-Coral Gables  
*Directing in the New Paradigm: Cast and Production Team  
as Learning Communities*

Paul W. Siemers, University of Minnesota  
*Siezing the Cycle or Undertaking an Epic Producing and  
Involving a Community*

Nina LeNoir, Bradley University  
*Talking with Bertold: Discovering the Dialectic in Caucasian  
Chalk Circle*

James Buglewicz, Missouri Western State College

\*Following immediately after panel: Conference Feedback  
Moderators: Mary L. Cutler, University of North Dakota; Matt  
Bliss, Fairmont State College

**11:00 am**

### **ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**