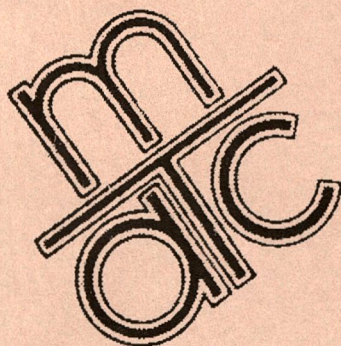


20th Annual
Mid-America Theatre
Conference
2000

March 9 - 12

Radisson Hotel Suites
St. Louis, Missouri



THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM
Theatre and the Community of Strangers

DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM
Sculpting Souls in Space and Time

PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM
Teaching Playwriting: Past, Present and Future

YOUNG SCHOLARS SYMPOSIUM

MID-AMERICA THEATRE CONFERENCE OFFICERS 2000

President

Tad Currie, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois

Vice-President

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

Secretary

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

Treasurer

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

CONVENTION OFFICIALS

Conference Planner

Elizabeth Reitz Mullenix, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois

Theatre History Symposium

Les Wade, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Leslie Ferris, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

assisted by Stephen Berwind, Louisiana State University

Directing Symposium

James Buglewicz, Missouri Western State College, St. Joseph, Missouri

Jean Thomsen, Chandler, Arizona

Playwrighting Symposium

Lynn-Steven Johanson, Macomb, Illinois

Judith Zivonovic, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas

Young Scholars Symposium

Kathleen McLennan, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, North Dakota

Graduate Student Outreach Coordinator

John Poole, Illinois State University, Normal Illinois

Theatre History Studies

Robert Schanke, Editor, Central College, Pella, Iowa

MATC FELLOWS

Arthur Ballet, 1988

Jed Davis, 1988

Patricia McIlrath, 1988

Charles Shattuck, 1990

Ron Engle, 1993

Burnet Hobgood, 1994

Glen Q. Pierce, 1997

Julia Curtis, 1999

MATC INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Bowling Green State University

Central Michigan University

Illinois State University

Luther College

Michigan State University

Northern Lights Playhouse

University of Akron

University of Missouri at Columbia

University of North Dakota

University of South Dakota

MATC Schedule

March 9-12, 2000

H *THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM* — Sessions will be held in Salon E

D *DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM* — Sessions will be held in Salon F

P *PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM* — Sessions will be held in Salon G

THURSDAY, MARCH 9

Session 1: 3:00-4:15 pm

H *THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM*

SHIFTING IDENTITIES

Chair: Elizabeth Reitz Mullenix, Illinois State University

Tina Redd, University of Washington
Racialized Communities and the Representation of Subjectivity.

Esther Kim, Ohio State University
A Community Showcase: The History of Northwest Asian American Theatre Company.

Jonathan Chambers, St. Lawrence University
Lost Souls in the Land of Plenty: Naomi Iizuka's Skin

D *DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM*

PRODUCTION HISTORIES

Julie Jackson, University of Wisconsin-Madison,
Real Women in Imaginary Places: Directing for Gloriana

Sandra Lindberg, Illinois Wesleyan University
Hair in 1999

William Douglas Powers, University of Missouri-Columbia
Possessed by The Dybbuk: Imbuing Stage and Performer with "Jewishness"

P *PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM*

BIT BY BIT – PUTTING IT TOGETHER: NURTURING STUDENT PLAYWRIGHTS

Chair: Ann McEntee, Allegheny College

D. Layne Ehlers, Bethany College

Susan McCully, Worcester College

Session 2: 4:30-5:45 pm

H *THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM*

AMERICAN EQUALITIES/INEQUALITIES

Chair: David Crespy, University of Missouri-Columbia

Tice Miller, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
The Politics of Equality: American Theatre and Issues of Diversity and Community in the Post-Civil War Era

Weldon Durham, University of Missouri-Columbia
*Domestic Ideology in the Plays of James Sheridan
Knowles and George Henry Boker*

Kathy Dudley, Lawrence University
*Lawrence University's 2.5%: Establishing Community and
Preserving Identity*

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

ACTOR TRAINING

Don Jordan, Ohio University
Masks in Actor Training

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

IN THIS TOGETHER: BUILDING COMMUNITY IN AN INTRODUCTORY PLAYWRITING COURSE

Chair, Judith Zivanovic, Kansas State University

Ellen K. Anderson, University of California, Santa Barbara

Session 3: 7:30-8:45 pm

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

GAY COMMUNITY AND PROTEST PRACTICES

Chair: Mark Zelinsky, Independent Scholar

Robert Schanke, Central College
*The Trial of Rev. Jimmy Creech: Performing Civil
Disobedience*

Jennifer Jones, Louisiana State University
Early AIDS Drama and the Reformation of Community

Alan Sikes, University of Minnesota.
*Don't Rain In My Parade: Social Protest and the
Performance of Gay Identity*

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

GLOBAL INSPIRATIONS

Dana Smith, Truman State University
Genocide: Voices of the Young

Samuel Zachery, Northern Kentucky University
*E. Gordon Craig & Japanese Architecture: Inspirations
for a Black Box Production of Rashomon*

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

**WHAT KIND OF DEVELOPMENTAL READING SERVES
THE PLAYWRIGHT BEST?: An evening of reading a
new play with non-professional readers, followed by a reading
performed by professional actors, with the process observed
and discussed (Double Session)**

Chair, Rebecca Fischell Bright

David Rush and Company, Southern Illinois University

Session 4: 9:00-10:15 pm.

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

ALLIANCES AND VARIATIONS

Chair, Robert Brooks, Eastern Illinois University

Joshua Daniel Abrams, City University of New York Graduate Center
Intimate Places, Community Spaces

Edris Cooper-Anifowoshe, Black Artists Contemporary Cultural
Experience, San Francisco
*Do You See Me? An Examination of the Community-
Building Theatre Principles of Rhodessa Jones*

Helen Huff, City University of New York Graduate Center
*Communities of Performers: Intertheatricalism and
Women's Benefit Performance*

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

WORKSHOP

Kate Sinnett, University of Missouri-Columbia
*Backstage Mayhem: Resolving Conflict in the Theatre
Boal & Negotiation*

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

READING AND DISCUSSION CONTINUED.

Chair, David Rush, Southern Illinois University

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

8-9 Breakfast (included in registration)

Session 5: 9:00-10:15 am

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

ACTING WHAT FOR WHOM?

Chair, Mark Mallett, Morehead State University

Yvonne Shafer, St. John's University
Becoming the Other: Acting in O'Neill

Dorothy Chansky, University of New Mexico
*A Gravy Train Named Desire: Acting vs. Activism in
Theatre Studies*

Deborah Ultan, Washington University
*Performance Moves Beyond the Postmodern:
Reclaiming the Self*

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

GENRE & FORM

Bill Jenkins, University of North Dakota
*Mixing Genres and Sculpting Souls: Paula Vogel's How I
Learned to Drive in Theory and Performance*

Elizabeth Smith & Bryan Falcon, Western Illinois University
*The Serious Quandry of Serious Drama: Analysis &
Solutions for the Modern Production*

P *PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM*

STRATEGIES FOR THE PLAYWRITING STUDENT

Chair, Charlotte MacFarland, Kansas State University

JoAllen Bradham, Kennesaw State University
*Teaching Playwriting When You're Not Preaching
to the Choir*

Barbara Nell Beery, Playwright, Sherman Oaks, CA
Finding the Dramatic Moments

Session 6: 10:30-11:45 am

H *THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM*

CHALLENGING ASSUMPTIONS

Chair, Dorothy Chansky, University of New Mexico

Rosemarie Bank, Kent State University
*Six Things I Wish They'd Stop Saying about
Nineteenth Century American Theatre*

Elizabeth Drorbaugh, independent scholar, Astoria, NY
The Real If Not the Rational: Margolin and Hamlet

Penny Farfan, University of Calgary
*Ellen Terry, Ibsen, and Shakespeare: Thinking
Feminism Beyond Realism*

D *DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM*

PROCESS

Sevin Saari, Northern Kentucky University
Viewpoints: A Director's Toolkit

James Buglewicz, Missouri Western State College
Physical Metaphor in Process & Direction

Peter Zapp, University of North Dakota
Meyerhold & Bio-Mechanics in the Context of Constructivism

P *PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM*

INFORMING THE NEW DRAMATURGY

Paul Castagno, University of Alabama

David Crespy, University of Missouri, Columbia

11:45-1 - Brown Bag Lunch

H *THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM*

MATC UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT DEBUT PANEL

Chair, Bethany Froelich, University of North Dakota

Laura Blegen, Lawrence University
*Electra Through the Ages: A Cultural Comparison of
Ancient Greek and Early Twentieth Century American
Theatre*

Bethany Froelich, University of North Dakota
Hedda Gabler and Myth

Ada Christine Pauss Jonsson, University of North Dakota
Jean Giraudoux and His Search for the Ideal

Greg Mitchell, Illinois State University
Saint Paul Goes to Boys' Town

Session 7: 1:00-2:15 pm

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

OPPRESSION AND THEATRICAL RESPONSE

Chair, Amy Cuomo, Southeastern Louisiana University

Yuko Kurahashi, Miami University
Antihegemonic Spectacle as an Alternative Voice of the Oppressed: Isidore Aguirre's Altarpiece Yumbel and Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo

Kevin Wery, Tufts University
Walking in the Way of Salvation: Pain, Penance, and Communal Ritual in the Flagellant Processions of 1260

Rhona Justice-Malloy, Central Michigan University
Communism, Concealment and the Construction of Identity in the Plays of Arpad Goncz

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

PHYSICAL PICTURES

Roger Bechtel and Marcia McDonald, Illinois Wesleyan University
A Thousand Words, A Picture, and Henrik Ibsen: Using Visual Art to Facilitate Director/Designer Communication

John Soliday, University of Miami
From Stage to Film: Directors Use of Pre & Post Production Designs & Storyboards

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

ASSISTING STUDENTS TO DEVELOP PLAYWRITING TECHNIQUE

Chair, D. Layne Ehlers, Bethany College (Double Session)

William Missouri Downs, University of Wyoming
Mastering Structure

Joel K. Murray, University of Texas at El Paso
Plot Points: Adapting the Screenwriting Paradigm to Playwriting

Session 8: 2:30-3:45 pm

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

PUBLIC DISCOURSE AND THE GOOD

Chair, Bill Harbin, Louisiana State University

August Staub, University of Georgia
Public and Private Thought: The Dramatic Trope as Ideal Medium for Public Thought in a Given Civic Intelligence

Joel Eis, State University of West Georgia
Finding Our Place in Time

John Schmor, University of Oregon
The Postmodern Closet: A Queer Polemic on Theatre, Theory, and Hope

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

NEW PERSPECTIVES

Mary Cutler, University of North Dakota

*Sculpting the Plural in Traditional Musical Theatre:
Opening Up Gender Perspectives in A Little Night
Music*

Tom Mitchell, University of Illinois

*Ecological Psychology as Foundation for the Directing
Process*

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

Technique workshop continues

D. Layne Ehlers, Bethany College

Report on the Survey of Playwriting Courses

Session 9: 4:00-5:15 pm

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

USES OF THE WESTERN TRADITION

Chair, C. Thomas Ault, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Matthew Wagner, University of Minnesota

*Whose Shakespeare? Troubling the Boundaries Between
the Local and the Universal*

Eric Wiley, University of Texas - Pan American.

*Hellenism and the Creation of Modern Arts Communities:
the Chicago Little Theatre*

Frank Bradley, American University in Cairo

*Theatre and Cultural Boundaries: An Experiment
in Progress*

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

PANEL

Becky Becker, Truman State University & Jim Williams, Bowling Green
State University

Violence & Vietnam: Sculpting a Credible World

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

COMMUNITY BASED WRITING

Chair, Judith Zivonovic

Rick W. Mitchell, California State University, Northridge

*Writing on/off the Margins: Community-based Theatre
and the Playwriting Classroom*

Atar Hadari, Bretton Hall College, Leeds University, England

*Community Soap: Collaborative Writing of a
Neighbourhood Based, Ethno-Specific Daily
Serial by Kids*

5:30-7:00 All-Conference Cocktail Party

SATURDAY, MARCH 11

8-9 Breakfast (included in registration)

Session 10: 9:00-10:15 am

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

CULTURAL ALLIANCES

Chair, Jennifer Jones, Louisiana State University

John Fletcher, University of Minnesota

In All Things Charity: Queers, Christians, and the Trial-Performance of Rev. Jimmy Creech

Wendell Stone, Louisiana State University

A Society of Strangers: Identity, Family, and Community at Caffè Cino

Megan Sanborn, University of Minnesota

Angels in America and the New Millennial Religion

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

THE DISABILITY PROJECT (Double Session)

10:15-11:45 am

Ann Fox & Joan Lipkin

The Disability Project

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

THE DISABILITY PROJECT (Double Session)

10:15-11:45 am

Ann Fox & Joan Lipkin

The Disability Project

Session 11: 10:30-11:45 am

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

THEATRICAL PROCESS AND UTOPIAN POSSIBILITY

Chair, Susan Applebaum, Independent Scholar

David Charles, Louisiana State University

The Politics of Improvisation: Creating a Utopian Blueprint One Word at a Time

Scott Phillips, Ohio State University

Rational Entertainment, Music Hall, and the Working-class Spectator

Mark Hunter, University of Texas

Rehearsing Solidarity: Theatrical Process as Community Modeled

MATC BANQUET

12:00 - 1:45 pm

ALL-CONFERENCE LUNCHEON:
ANNE BOGART AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Salon D

2:00-3:00 MATC Business Meeting
Salon E

Session 12: 3:15-4:30 pm

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

RE-WRITING THE IRISH

Chair, Joseph Kissane, Columbia University

Brian Singleton, Trinity College

*Strangers in the House: Reconfiguring the Borders of
National and Cultural Identities in Contemporary
Irish Performance*

Karin Maresh, Ohio State University

The Mythical Beginnings of a National Theatre

Patrick Bynane, Louisiana State University

Riverdance: Irish Porno

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

PANEL

John Schmor & Becky Becker, Truman State University

*Directing Pedagogy in Space & Time: Sculpting Images,
Stifling Words*

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

ASSUMING THE POSITION: CASE STUDIES EXPLORING THREE INTERPRETATIONS OF THE DRAMATURG'S ROLE IN THE ACADEMY

Chair, Art Borreca, University of Iowa

Kristen Gandrow, University of Iowa

The Dramaturg as Confidante and Collaborator

Tom Gibbons, University of Iowa

*The Dramaturg as Playwright: Coming Out of the
Creative Closet*

Robb Gries, University of Iowa

*The Dramaturg as Activist: A Case Study of Gross
Indecency and the Politics of Being Political*

Session 13: 4:45-6:00 pm

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

MIXING IDENTITIES

Chair, Julia Curtis, University of Nebraska-Omaha

Felicia Hardison Londre, University of Missouri-Kansas City
*Cross-ethnic Dressing for Freedom and Profit: .
The Case of Al Jolson*

Dan Friedman, Castillo Theatre, New York City
*The Interface Between Blacks and Jews in the Plays
of Fred Newman: A Study in the Nature of Identity*

Albert Wertheim, Indiana University
*Difference and Prejudice in American Drama:
World War II and its Aftermath*

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

A RETROSPECTIVE

John Soliday, University of Miami
*Indelible Images Sculpted in Light & Space —
The Minneapolis Children's Theatre Legacy of
Production - A Slide Illustrated Analysis*

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

Previous session continues.

Art Borreca, University of Iowa
*Dramaturgy as Pedagogy: Rebuilding a Community of
Learning in the Iowa Playwrights Workshop*

Session 14: 7:30-8:15 pm

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

MATC GRADUATE STUDENT DEBUT PANEL

Chair, Kathleen McLennan, University of North Dakota

Joyce A. Johnson, University of North Dakota
Serious Women in Caryl Churchill's Serious Money

Joan Lauckner, University of North Dakota
Eleanor of Aquitaine: A Personal Struggle Against Oppression

Shannon Blake Skelton, University of Oklahoma
Schechner's Six Axioms and The Wooster Group

Jennifer Tallman, University of Wisconsin-Madison
*Toby and the Townspeople: Negotiations of Otherness
in the Development of a Rural Audience and Repertoire*

D DIRECTING SYMPOSIUM

PANEL

Craig Iwen, Kathryn O'Donnell, Aili Davidson, Kelly Daily
Sculpting Graduate Directors/Designers for This Century

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

Chair, Judith Zivanovic

Norman J. Myers, Bowling Green State University
*Gustav Who? Freytag's (unacknowledged) Influence
on the Teaching of Playwriting (and Nearly Everything
Else)*

**8:30-9:30 Reception for graduate and
undergraduate students**

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

Session 15: 8:00-9:15 am

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

EUROPEAN TENSIONS

Chair, Dana Smith, Truman State University

Stacey Connelly, Trinity University

Piscator's Theatre in War Time: Fighting Facism Through Cross-Cultural Performance

Leigh Clemons, Walsh University

Stranger to the Nation: Degeneration and the Formation of German National Narrative

Lisa Bernd, Madison Area Technical College

Renaissance Theater and the Creation of a Nationalist Paradigm: A Case Study

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

BEYOND THE SCRIPT/ALTERNATIVES AND INSIGHTS (Double Session)

Chair, Lynn-Steven Johanson

Nita K. Ritzke, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Linking the Academic to the Practical

Lauren Friesen, University of Michigan, Flint

From Page to Stage: Insights for Teaching Playwriting

Session 16: 9:30-10:45 am

H THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

PANEL AND GROUP DISCUSSION OF CONFERENCE TOPIC

Principal Respondent: Rosemarie Bank, Kent State University

Note: This year the MATC has selected Rosemarie Bank as guest VIP scholar for the theatre history symposium. A long-time supporter of the MATC, Professor Bank has an extensive record of journal publications. She is the author of *Theatre Culture in America, 1825-1860*. (Cambridge U P, 1997) and is currently preparing *Staging the Native 1792-1892*. A recent NEH Fellow, she serves on a number of editorial boards, and is Professor of Theatre and Coordinator of Graduate Studies at Kent State University.

P PLAYWRITING SYMPOSIUM

Previous session continued

Mark Troy, Writer for stage and screen

Acting for Writers

Howard Blanning, Miami University, Oxford

Teaching Playwriting at the University and Conservatory