
FOR THEATRE'S SAKE



MID AMERICA THEATRE CONFERENCE CONVENTION II

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

MARCH 20, 21, 22, 1981

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The Curtis Hotel
Minneapolis, Minnesota
March 20, 21, 22 1981

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Friday, March 20

3:00-8:00 pm Registration and Exhibitions
EAST ROOM

3:00-4:30 pm Business Meeting: Regional Officers and
Conference Planning Committee
EVERGREEN ROOM

4:00-5:20 pm **Audition Workshop**
SOLARIUM
Conducted by Lois Foraker, The Guthrie Theatre

5:30 pm Chief Regional Officer's Dinner
CARDINAL ROOM
Presiding: Harold Nichols, CRO
Speaker: Larry Clark, President Elect, American Theatre Association

7:30-10:00 pm **Climb, Inc. — Theatre in Reverse**
CARDINAL ROOM
Conducted by Peg Wetli, Climb, Inc., Minneapolis

Working from the audience to produce appropriate theatrical programming for persons with disabilities, Climb, Inc. takes you inside the process with these new in-depth workshops.

SESSION I

Through examples of mini-drama, slides, and discussion, Climb, Inc., explores its work with the disabled — what it does, for whom and why.

SESSION II

Experiences to allow you an intimate understanding of the disabled, their needs and how theatre can meet them.

SESSION III

Finding, training and supporting the special actor — how they do their work.

7:30-9:30 pm **Auditioning: An Open Dialogue**
SOLARIUM
Conducted by: Carolyn Rutherford, Nebraska Theatre Caravan
Participants: Ron Moyer, University of South Dakota; Tom Carlisle, University of Northern Iowa
Representatives from those theatres auditioning at MATC will have an open session with those attending the convention to audition. Company representatives will have a chance to voice expectations, and those auditioning will have a chance to ask questions.

Saturday, March 21

8:00 am-5:00 pm Registration and Exhibitions
EAST ROOM

8:00-9:30 am Divisional Business Meetings

Secondary Schools,
ABC ROOM

Children's Theatre,
NORTHSHORE

University and College Theatre,
SOLARIUM

Community Theatre,
EVERGREEN ROOM

9:30-10:50 am SESSIONS

Stage Combat Workshop

CARDINAL ROOM

Peter Thoemke, The Guthrie Theatre

The Professional in Our Midst: How Important is Production Quality in the University Theatre?

MOROCCO ROOM

Conducted by: David Jorns, Mankato State University

Panelists: Bob Moulton, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis; Ron Olason, Mankato State University; Lou Salerni, Cricket Theatre, Minneapolis

The panel will give prepared statements followed by open discussion.

Fund Raising

ABC ROOM

Conducted by: Vince Walker, member of The Guthrie Theatre's development staff in charge of corporate fund raising.

A workshop devoted to discussing ways and means of expanding financial support for theatres.

Children's Drawings as Indicators of Perception of Theatrical Design.

SOLARIUM

Jed Davis, Head of Childrens Theatre Program, University of Kansas.

This session features slides of various productions coupled with the visual responses of children to the same.

Sceneography: What Is It and How Can it Unify Theatre Production?

NORTHSHORE

Conducted by: Greg Hill, Scenic Designer, University of Kansas

11:00 am-12:20 pm SESSIONS

Audience Development

ABC ROOM

Doug Eichten, Marketing Director, The Guthrie Theatre

The department which Mr. Eichten heads is responsible for the publicity, advertising, direct mail, personal sales, program magazine and public relations in support of the Guthrie mainstage plays, tours and concerts. Application of these areas for audience development will be discussed.

Theatre Architecture

SOLARIUM

Chairman and Moderator: Edward F. Krehl, Designer/Technical Director, Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota;
Ned Lustig, Theatre Consultant, Lustig and Associates, St. Louis, Missouri;

C. Lance Brockman, User, Designer/Technical Director, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota;

Richard Durst, User, Designer/Technical Director, University of Minnesota, Duluth, Minnesota;

Kevin Sullivan, Architect, The Wold Association Architects, St. Paul, Minnesota.

To Act or Not to Act: Faculty as Cast Members in University Theatre Productions

CARDINAL ROOM

Chair: Patrick D. Gouran, Iowa State University

Panel: Ronald A. Willis, University of Kansas; Kate Burke, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

A generally accepted standard in most university theatre programs is that faculty directors must direct and faculty designers must design. No clear-cut standard emerges in terms of faculty actors acting. This panel will consider the potential advantages and disadvantages of casting faculty members in university theatre productions.

Excellence and Ethics in Children's Theatre: A Challenge to Producers of Theatre for Children and Youth.

MOROCCO ROOM

Chair: Bernie Rosenblatt, Director, Arts and Humanities group, CEMREL, Inc., St. Louis, Missouri

Panelists: Jed Davis, Head of Children's Theatre, University of Kansas; Scott Regan, University of Northern Iowa; John Clark Donahue, Artistic Director, The Children's Theatre Company, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Four points of view will be presented prior to panel/audience discussion.

Sign Language Theatre

NORTHSHORE

Conducted by: Sandra Gish, Northern Sign Theatre, Minneapolis.
Sign language is not an arbitrary language system, but a visual language that physically represents reality. The hearing actor and director can borrow sign language theatre techniques to understand the impact of body language, meaningful gesture and body focus on spoken line interpretation.

12:30-1:50 pm SESSIONS

Putting Together An Intentional Plan of Volunteer and Staff Development in Community Theatre.

ABC ROOM

Twink Lynch, Executive Director, Association of Kansas Theatre.
This session will provide an opportunity for participants to "walk through" a step by step plan for recruitment, training, evaluating, and recognizing volunteers and staff in community theatre.

Enriching the Secondary Theatre Student Experience

MOROCCO ROOM

Conducted by: Nadine Charlsen, Campus High School, Haysville, Kansas

A discussion of some ways of extending production and classroom experience into the elementary and junior high school and community.

Period Movement and Dance in Shakespeare

CARDINAL ROOM

Conducted by: Jennifer Martin, University of Iowa

A demonstration/participation workshop.

Theatre Architecture: Continuation of Panel Discussion

SOLARIUM

The Liberal Arts Theatre Program: A Dialogue

ABC ROOM

Conducted by: Sandy Moffett, Grinnell College

Participants: Jan Czechowski, Grinnell College; Edward Sostek, Carlton; Robert Larson, Luther College; Piet Knetsch, Bethany College; Wendell Josal, University of Minnesota.

Panelists will present brief descriptions of their small college, liberal arts theatre programs. The university representative will respond discussing graduate program requirements. Largely discussion among everyone in attendance.

2:00-3:20 pm SESSIONS

Cherry Creek, A Theatre Company

CARDINAL ROOM

Conducted by: David Olson company member, Cherry Creek
A demonstration/discussion of alternative theatre methods.

Adjudication Workshop #1

SOLARIUM

Ronald Willis, University of Kansas

Methods of communicating in an effective fashion to fellow theatre workers about what we have experienced. People attending this workshop should plan to see *MACBETH* at the Guthrie Theatre, Saturday evening.

Designer/Director Communication

MOROCCO ROOM

Chair: Greg Hill, Scenic Designer, University of Kansas

Panel: Tom Bliese, Mankato State University; Ron Olausen, Mankato State University; William Kimes, Hamline University.

An open discussion of the collaborative effort, and how it does or doesn't work.

The Liberal Arts Theatre Program: A Dialogue

ABC ROOM

Continuation of the 12:30-1:50 pm session.

3:30-4:50 pm SESSIONS

Planning and Participating in Meetings That Work

NORTHSHORE

Conducted by: Twink Lynch

Part lecture, part discussion, this session will cover meeting objectives, agendas and communication processes including helping and hindering roles people play.

School Curriculum and Teacher Training: What's the Connection?

ABC ROOM

Conducted by: Bernie Rosenblatt

Panelist: Nadine Charlsen, Campus High School, Haysville

Climb, Inc.: Constructing a Mini-Drama

CARDINAL ROOM

Conducted by: Peg Wetli

An intermediate how-to session giving participants a chance to produce a theatrical piece that could be used in the education of the mentally and physically disabled children and adults. Will include live or video taped demonstration. Those wishing to participate should plan to attend Climb's Friday evening sessions.

Interning in the Regional Theatre

SOLARIUM

Conducted by: Judy Dorrell, Intern Administrator, St. Nicholas Theatre, Chicago

Using the structure at St. Nicholas' Theatre, and her experiences at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre and the University of Missouri at Kansas City, Ms. Dorrell will hold an open discussion on expectations of the theatre about the intern, and the intern's expectations.

5:00-10:30 pm Dinner and Theatre Time

MACBETH Symposium: The Guthrie Theatre -10:30 pm
conducted by Macbeth and Lady Macbeth.

Sunday, March 22

10:00-11:20 am SESSIONS

Adjudication Workshop #2

SAVOY ROOM

Conducted by: Ronald Willis, University of Kansas

MATC Board and State Presidents Meeting

MOROCCO ROOM

The Children's Theatre Company: Outreach

CARDINAL ROOM

Conducted by: Tony Stebly, Director, Outreach Program, The Children's Theatre Company.

(This company just received the American Theatre Critic's Association Margo Jones Award for Outstanding Development of New Plays and Playwrights. It is the first time a theatre for youth has received this honor. Congratulations!)

Design Session

EAST ROOM

Conducted by: Bob Welk, University of Nebraska-Omaha; Edward Krehl, Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota; Greg Hill, University of Kansas

A discussion of exhibits in the design invitational.

11:30 am-1:00 pm All Conference Brunch

SOLARIUM

Speaker: David Gooder, President, American Theatre Association

1:00 pm Business Meeting, Evaluation and Discussion:

MATC Convention

SOLARIUM

Presiding: Harold Nichols

2:00 pm The Clown of God

At the Children's Theatre, 2400 3rd Avenue South.

MATC THEATRE HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

EVERGREEN ROOM

Friday, March 20

3:00-5:00 pm **Fitzjames O'Brien:** Irish Playwright and Critic: New York, 1852-1862

Tice Miller, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Charlotte Cushman

Elizabeth H. Nash, University of Minnesota

Margaret Fleming: James A. Herne's Contributions to American Realism

Pamela Wegner, Wartburg College, Iowa

7:30-8:30 pm Historiography

Alan Woods, Ohio State University

8:30-10:30 pm Panel: Folk Elements and Popular Tradition in 19th Century Continental Theatre

Chair: Felicia Londre, University of Missouri-Kansas City

"Cross-Currents of Task: Adaptations from the French Theatre by James Robinson Planché."

Ardelle Striker, University of Connecticut

German Theatre

Glen Gadberry, University of Minnesota

"The Snowmaiden that came in from the Cold" Production

History of *The Snowmaiden* in 19th Century Russia

Felicia Londre

Saturday, March 21

9:30-10:50 am Panel: **The 19th Century British Theatre**

Chair: Harold Nichols, Kansas State University

Jane Scott at the Sans Pareil

Alfred Nelson, Eastern Michigan University

Charles Kean in the Provinces, 1833-1838

M. Glen Wilson, Macalester College, Minnesota

The Hamlets of Kemble, Kean and Macready

Harry M. Ritchie, University of Denver

11:00 am-12:45 pm A Study of the Pavilion Theatre in Regard to Theatre Repertory and Theatre Location

Anita Cowan, University of Georgia

Booth's Richelieu

Dan Watermeier, SUNY Plattsburg

LUNCH

2:00-3:30 pm Panel: **The Victorian American Stage**

Chair: Tice Miller, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Imre Kiralfy's Production of The Fall of Babylon, 1890,
Boston

James S. Moy, University of Oregon

Fanny Kemble's Platform Readings of Shakespeare in America

Gerald Kahan, University of Georgia

Pictorial Evidence for Acting Styles in our Post-Bellum Theatre

Frederick J. Hunter, University of Texas-Austin

3:30-5:00 pm Panel: **The Stock Company Revival in America**

Chair: Weldon Durham, University of Missouri/Columbia

Late 19th Century Stock Company in Montreal and Toronto

Y.S. Bains

The Mae Desmond Players of Philadelphia

Mari Kathlen Fielder, UCLA

Cleveland Ohio Stock Companies at the Turn of the Century

Charles Schultz, Northwest Missouri State University

DINNER

The Guthrie's presentation of *Macbeth*, by the 19th century's favorite playwright.

Sunday, March 22

9:30-11:30 am Panel: **Ethnic Theatre in America**

Chair: Ron Engle, University of North Dakota/Grand Forks

The Popular Reception of Tommaso Salvini in America

David Fennema, University of Denver

Ludwig Barnay and the 19th Century German Theatre in New York

Ron Engle

The Stage Irishman in Ireland

Robert Graves, University of Illinois/Urbana

Hackett and Crackett: or, Yankee Go Home

Richard L. Klepac, University of Missouri/Columbia

Mid America Theatre Conference History Symposium

Tice L. Miller, Chair

Papers from the MATC History Symposium will be published under the sponsorship of the University of North Dakota, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Editorial Board

Ron Engle, Editor

Weldon Durham

Felicia Londre

Tice Miller

Harold Nichols

MATC AUDITIONS

Ron Moyer, Chair

Saturday: 8:30 am-5:00 pm: Mpls. Vo-Tech Institute

Rooms 205, 206 1214 Hennepin Ave. S.

Sunday: 3:30 a.m.-11:00 pm: ABC Room, Curtis Hotel

MID AMERICA THEATRE CONFERENCE Council and Officers

CRO: Harold J. Nichols, Kansas State University

Vice CRO: Thomas Carlisle, University of Northern Iowa

Sec/Treas: M. Kent Neely, University of Minnesota

Rep/ATA Board of Nominations: Jed Davis, University of Kansas

ACTA: Anna Marie Thatcher, Rapid City, South Dakota

CTAA: Lee Beger, University of North Dakota

SSTA: Judith E. Rethwisch, Fenton, Missouri

UCTA: Julia Curtis, University of Nebraska, Omaha

ATSL: Linda Haynes, Kansas State University

MATC Convention Committee

Chair: Joyce Cavarozzi, Wichita State University

Local Arrangements: Dick Fliehr, Theater in the Round, Minnesota

Exhibits and Technical Theatre: Edward Krehl, Hamline University, St. Paul

Auditions: Ron Moyer, University of South Dakota

Committee Members:

Peg Wetli, CLIMB, Inc., Minneapolis

Lee Beger, University of North Dakota

David Jorns, Mankato State University, Minnesota

William Kimes, Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota

Greg Hill, University of Kansas

Ron Engle, University of North Dakota

Mid America Theatre Conference Scenic and Costume Design Competition is sponsored by
Metropolitan Stage Equipment Company, 2451 St. Marys, Omaha, Nebraska, 68105.
It will be judged by Michael Beery, Properties Master, The Guthrie Theatre.