

REAL LIFE

The Group Theatre and



America, 1931-1940

DRAMA

Wendy Smith

Real Life Drama The Group Theatre And America 1931 1940

Don B. Wilmeth, Christopher Bigsby



Real Life Drama The Group Theatre And America 1931 1940:

Real Life Drama Wendy Smith, 2013-08-06 Real Life Drama is the classic history of the remarkable group that revitalized American theater in the 1930s by engaging urgent social and moral issues that still resonate today Born in the turbulent decade of the Depression the Group Theatre revolutionized American arts Wendy Smith's dramatic narrative brings the influential troupe and its founders to life once again capturing their joys and pains their triumphs and defeats Filled with fresh insights into the towering personalities of Harold Clurman Lee Strasberg Cheryl Crawford Elia Kazan Clifford Odets Stella and Luther Adler Karl Malden and Lee J Cobb among many others Real Life Drama chronicles a passionate community of idealists as they opened a new frontier in theater

Modern American Drama: Playwriting in the 1930s Anne Fletcher, 2019-11-14 The Decades of Modern American Drama series provides a comprehensive survey and study of the theatre produced in each decade from the 1930s to 2009 in eight volumes Each volume equips readers with a detailed understanding of the context from which work emerged an introduction considers life in the decade with a focus on domestic life and conditions social changes culture media technology industry and political events while a chapter on the theatre of the decade offers a wide ranging and thorough survey of theatres companies dramatists new movements and developments in response to the economic and political conditions of the day The work of the four most prominent playwrights from the decade receives in depth analysis and re evaluation by a team of experts together with commentary on their subsequent work and legacy A final section brings together original documents such as interviews with the playwrights and with directors drafts of play scenes and other previously unpublished material The major playwrights and their works to receive in depth coverage in this volume include Clifford Odets Waiting for Lefty 1935 Awake and Sing 1935 and Golden Boy 1937 Lillian Hellman The Children's Hour 1934 The Little Foxes 1939 and Days to Come 1936 Langston Hughes Mulatto 1935 Mule Bone 1930 with Zora Neale Hurston and Little Ham 1936 Gertrude Stein Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights 1938 Four Saints in Three Acts written in 1927 published in 1932 and Listen to Me 1936

Acting in the Academy Peter Zazzali, 2016-03-31 There are over 150 BFA and MFA acting programs in the US today nearly all of which claim to prepare students for theatre careers Peter Zazzali contends that the curricula of these courses represent an ethos that is as outdated as it is limited given today's shrinking job market for stage actors Acting in the Academy traces the history of actor training in universities to make the case for a move beyond standard courses in voice and speech movement or performance to develop an entrepreneurial model that motivates and encourages students to create their own employment opportunities This book answers questions such as How has the League of Professional Theatre Training Programs shaped actor training in the US How have training programmes and the acting profession developed in relation to one another What impact have these developments had on American acting as an art form Acting in the Academy calls for a reconceptualization of actor training the US and looks to newly empower students of performance with a fresh original perspective on their professional

development *The Piscatorbühne Century* Drew Lichtenberg,2021-11-21 This study of the Piscatorbühne season of 1927-1928 uncovers a vital previously neglected current of radical experiment in modern theater a ghost in the machine of contemporary performance practices A handful of theater seasons changed the course of 20th and 21st century theatre But only the Piscatorbühne of 1927-1928 went bankrupt in less than a year This exploration tells the story of that collapse how it predicted the wider collapse of the late Weimar Republic and how it relates to our own era of political polarization and economic instability As a wider examination of Piscator's contributions to dramaturgical and aesthetic form *The Piscatorbühne Century* makes a powerful and timely case for the renewed significance of the broader epic theater tradition Drawing on a rich archive of interwar materials Drew Lichtenberg reconstructs this germinal nexus of theory and praxis for the modern theatre This book will be of great interest to students and scholars in theatre performance art and literature **Actor Training** Alison Hodge,2010-01-29 *Actor Training* expands on Alison Hodge's highly acclaimed and best selling *Twentieth Century Actor Training* This exciting second edition radically updates the original book making it even more valuable for any student of the history and practice of actor training The bibliography is brought right up to date and many chapters are revised In addition eight more practitioners are included and forty more photographs to create a stunningly comprehensive study The practitioners included are Stella Adler Eugenio Barba Augusto Boal Anne Bogart Bertolt Brecht Peter Brook Michael Chekhov Joseph Chaikin Jacques Copeau Philippe Gaulier Jerzy Grotowski Maria Knebel Jacques Lecoq Joan Littlewood Sanford Meisner Vsevolod Meyerhold Ariane Mnouchkine Monika Pagneux Michel Saint Denis Włodzimierz Staniewski Konstantin Stanislavsky Lee Strasberg The historical cultural and political context of each practitioner's work is clearly set out by leading experts and accompanied by an incisive and enlightening analysis of the main principles of their training practical exercises and key productions This book is an invaluable introduction to the principles and practice of actor training and its role in shaping modern theatre **Broadway Goes to War** Robert L. McLaughlin,Sally E. Parry,2021-06-08 The American theater was not ignorant of the developments brought on by World War II and actively addressed and debated timely controversial topics for the duration of the war including neutrality and isolationism racism and genocide and heroism and battle fatigue Productions such as *Watch on the Rhine* 1941 *The Moon is Down* 1942 *Tomorrow the World* 1943 and *A Bell for Adano* 1944 encouraged public discussion of the war's impact on daily life and raised critical questions about the conflict well before other forms of popular media American drama of the 1940s is frequently overlooked but the plays performed during this eventful decade provide a picture of the rich and complex experience of living in the United States during the war years McLaughlin and Parry's work fills a significant gap in the history of theater and popular culture showing that American society was more divided and less idealistic than the received histories of the WWII home front and the entertainment industry recognize To Have or Have Not James Fisher,2011-10-14 In a rapidly changing world the ways in which economic forces affect both personal and global change can be difficult to track particularly in the arts This

collection of twenty new essays explores both obscure and famous plays dealing with economic issues Beginning with the Industrial Revolution the text moves from Marx s theories to Wall Street speculation nineteenth century immigration issues the excesses of the Gilded Age and the 1920s the Great Depression World War II and millennial economic challenges **The Cambridge History of American Theatre** Don B. Wilmeth, Christopher Bigsby, 1998 The second volume of the authoritative multi volume Cambridge History of American Theatre first published in 1999 begins in the post Civil War period and traces the development of American theatre up to 1945 It covers all aspects of theatre from plays and playwrights through actors and acting to theatre groups and directors Topics examined include vaudeville and popular entertainment European influences theatre in and beyond New York the rise of the Little Theatre movement changing audiences modernism the Federal Theatre movement scenography stagecraft and architecture Contextualising chapters explore the role of theatre within the context of American social and cultural history and the role of American theatre in relation to theatre in Europe and beyond This definitive history of American theatre includes contributions from the following distinguished academics Thomas Postlewait John Frick Tice L Miller Ronald Wainscott Brenda Murphy Mark Fearnow Brooks McNamara Thomas Riis Daniel J Watermeier Mary C Henderson and Warren Kliewer **Training of the American Actor (Large Print 16pt)** Arthur Bartow, 2010-07 The first comprehensive survey and study of the major techniques developed by and for the American actor over the past 60 years Presented side by side each of the 10 disciplines included is described in detail by one of today s foremost practitioners An invaluable resource both for the young actor embarking on a career and for the theatre professional polishing his or her craft successful acting must reflect a society s current beliefs The men and women who developed each new technique were convinced that previous methods were not equal to the full challenges of their time and place and the techniques in this book have been adapted to current needs in order to continue to be successful methods for training actors The actor s journey is an individual one and the actor seeks a form or a variety of forms of training that will assist in unlocking his own creative gifts of expression Weill's Musical Theater Stephen Hinton, 2012-04-10 In the first musicological study of Kurt Weill s complete stage works Stephen Hinton charts the full range of theatrical achievements by one of twentieth century musical theater s key figures Hinton shows how Weill s experiments with a range of genres from one act operas and plays with music to Broadway musicals and film opera became an indispensable part of the reforms he promoted during his brief but intense career Confronting the divisive notion of two Weills one European the other American Hinton adopts a broad and inclusive perspective establishing criteria that allow aspects of continuity to emerge particularly in matters of dramaturgy Tracing his extraordinary journey as a composer the book shows how Weill s artistic ambitions led to his working with a remarkably heterogeneous collection of authors such as Georg Kaiser Bertolt Brecht Moss Hart Alan Jay Lerner and Maxwell Anderson

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