

## Theatre

### A Guide to Selected Research Materials

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#### Access Information:

1. All databases listed in this guide are available within all of the KU Libraries and via the KU Libraries Web site: <http://www.lib.ku.edu>
2. From the Libraries' Web site, click the **Information Gateway** link <http://infogateway.ku.edu/> and select the title of the database you wish to search. If you are accessing from off-campus, you will be prompted to provide your online ID and password (the same one used for KU email).

### Finding Books and Journals

*Library Catalog* (<http://catalog.lib.ku.edu/> )

Search the library catalog the following ways to find books by or about an author:

- a) Books by Tennessee Williams:  
*Search by author* Williams, Tennessee
- b) Books about Tennessee Williams:  
*Search by subject heading* Williams, Tennessee
- c) Books analyzing Williams works:  
*Search by subject heading* Williams, Tennessee-Criticism and Interpretation

Search by using **Keyword Boolean (and/or/not)** to find books on more specific topics:

- d) characters and "Tennessee Williams" and women  
characters and "Tennessee Williams" and (symbol? **Or** image?)

To find if KU has a specific journal (electronic or print)

*Search by Journal title* American Drama

#### *WorldCat*

The WorldCat database is the OCLC Online Union Catalog, containing more than 32 million records describing items owned by the KU Libraries and libraries around the world. Each record shows which libraries hold the item. If KU does not have a particular book, you may request it online through Interlibrary Loan at <https://illiad.lib.ku.edu/KKU/>

## **Finding Plays in Collections**

**Play Index** (database online at <http://infogateway.ku.edu/>)

**Ottemiller's Index to Plays in Collections.** 7<sup>th</sup> ed.  
**Z5781 .O8 1988** (Watson Library Reference Desk, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor)

**Inter-Play:** An online index to plays in collections, anthologies and periodicals  
<http://www.lib.pdx.edu/systems/interplay/>

**Index to plays in periodicals** / by D.H. Keller.  
**Z5781 .K43 1979** (Watson Library Reference)

**Chicorel theater index to plays in anthologies, periodicals, discs, and tapes** / edited by M. Chicorel  
**Z5781 .C485** 2 vol. (Watson Library Reference)

## **General Reference Works**

**Oxford companion to the theatre** / edited by P. Hartnoll.  
**PN2035 .H3 1983** (Watson Library Reference Desk)

**Cambridge guide to American theatre** / edited by D.B. Wilmeth and T.L. Miller.  
**PN2220 .C35 1993** (Watson Library Reference)

**Cambridge history of American theatre** / edited by D.B. Wilmeth and C. Bigsby.  
**PN2221 .C37 1998** (Watson Library Stacks)

### **Theatre world**

**PN2277.N5 A17 1945-** (Watson Library Reference)

Annual overview of Broadway and off-Broadway productions, along with cast biographies, lists of awards and award-winning plays.

**International bibliography of theatre**  
**Z6935 .I53** (Watson Library Reference)

## **Finding information about the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

**19th Century Masterfile** (database online)

Indexes 19th century newspapers, periodicals, books, and government documents; some full-text. Contains Poole's Index to Periodical Literature.

**America, History and Life** (database online)

Indexes and abstracts the world's scholarly literature in the history of the United States and Canada from prehistoric times to the present. Includes journals of state and local historical societies, the social sciences and humanities generally, and leading journals in related fields of knowledge.

***Historical abstracts*** (database online)

A bibliographic database to the history of the world from 1450 to the present (excluding the United States and Canada, which are covered in the database, America: History and Life). Indexes the journal and book literature.

**American theaters : performance halls of the nineteenth century** / D. Naylor and J. Dillon.  
**NA6830 .N38 1997** (Art & Architecture Library)

**Annals of the New York stage** / by George Odell

**PN2277.N5 O4** (Watson Library Stacks)

Chronological record of theatres, actors, plays and playwrights in New York City from early 18<sup>th</sup> century to 1894.

**The history of North American theater : from pre-Columbian times to the present** / F.H. Londré and D. J. Watermeier **PN2219.5 .L66 1998** (Watson Library Stacks)

**American theatre companies, 1749-1887** / by W.B. Durham.

**PN2237 .A43 1986** (2 copies – 1 in Watson Library Stacks and 1 in Reference)

**American theatre companies, 1888-1930** / by W.B. Durham.

**PN2256 .A44 1987** (Watson Library Reference)

**American literary and drama reviews : an index to late nineteenth century periodicals** / P. Marks.

**PN2256 .M37 1984** (Watson Library Reference)

**British playwrights, 1880-1956: a research and production sourcebook** / ed. by W. Demastes and K.E. Kelly.

**PR736 .B7 1996** (Watson Library Reference)

**English and American plays of the nineteenth century. American plays, 1831-1900.** Nineteenth-century American drama : a finding guide / by D.L. Hixon and D.A. Hennessee.

**PS632 .H57** (Watson Library Reference)

**American playwrights, 1880-1945** : a research and production sourcebook / ed. by W. Demastes

**Z1231.D7 A52 1995** (Watson Library Stacks)

**American drama to 1900** : a guide to information sources / by W.J. Meserve,

**Z1231.D7 M45** (Watson Library Reference)

**English drama and theatre, 1800-1900** / L. W. Conolly, J. P. Wearing.

**Z2014.D7 C72** (Watson Library Reference)

## **Biographical Sources**

***Biography and Genealogy Master Index*** (database online)

Indexes more than 12.7 million biographical sketches in more than 3,400 volumes and editions of current and retrospective reference books, covering both contemporary and historical figures throughout the world. This is an excellent place to look for sources of biographical information.

**Who was who in the theatre, 1912-1976** : a biographical dictionary of actors, actresses, directors, playwrights, and producers of the English-speaking theatre / compiled from Who's who in the theatre, volumes 1-15 (1912-1972)

PN2597 .W52 (Watson Library Stacks)

**McGraw-Hill encyclopedia of world drama** / ed. by S. Hochman

PN1625 .M3 1984 (5 vol.) (Watson Library Reference)

**International dictionary of theatre** / ed. by M. Hawkins-Dady

PN2035 .I49 1992 (3 vol.) (Watson Library Reference)

**Notable names in the American theatre** / by W. Rigdon

PN2285 .N6 1976 (Watson Library Reference)

**Notable women in the American theatre** : a biographical dictionary / A. M. Robinson, V. M. Roberts

PN2285 .N65 1989 (Watson Library Reference)

**Nineteenth-century theatrical memoirs** / compiled by C.D. Johnson and V.E. Johnson

Z6935 .J63 1982 (Watson Library Reference)

**American playwrights, 1880-1945** : a research and production sourcebook / edited by W. Demastes.

Z1231.D7 A52 1995 (Watson Library Stacks)

## **Finding Articles in Databases (online at <http://infogateway.ku.edu/>)**

***MLA International Bibliography*** (1923-)

The *MLA International Bibliography*, from the Modern Language Association of America, is the fundamental research tool for the humanities. The database indexes international scholarly materials on modern language, literature, linguistics, and folklore. Provides access to scholarly research in nearly 4,000 journals and series. It also covers relevant monographs, working papers, proceedings, bibliographies, and other formats.

***International Index to Performing Arts*** (1864-)

*IIPA Full Text*, a performing arts journal resource with nearly 350,000 indexed articles, plus detailed abstracts and full text from 1864 to current, covering film, theatre and dance.

***International Bibliography of Theatre and Dance*** (1984-)

The *International Bibliography of Theatre and Dance* represents the most comprehensive multicultural and inter-disciplinary research tool available to theatre students, educators and professionals. Since

1984, the Theatre Research Data Center (TRDC) at Brooklyn College has published 14 volumes of the IBT. These volumes comprise a fully indexed, cross-referenced and annotated databank of over 60,000 journal articles, books, book articles and dissertation abstracts on all aspects of theatre and performance in 126 countries.

### ***Project Muse***

Provides online access to current issues of selected scholarly journals in the arts and humanities, social sciences, and mathematics.

### ***JSTOR***

JSTOR (Journal Storage Project) is an ongoing project designed to provide electronic access to the full-text of core academic journals in a variety of disciplines. *JSTOR* has many diverse subject strengths, covering core journals for African American studies, economics, history, language and literature, philosophy, and the general sciences.

***Expanded Academic ASAP*** (1980-) – to find journal, magazine, and newspaper articles (full-text, abstracts and citations). The best way to find information on a literary work and the author is to choose **Subject Guide** from the searches on the left side of the screen. In the Subject Guide search screen, type in the author's name, last name first. (For example, Williams, Tennessee).

***Literature Resource Center*** – to find biographical information on an author and literary criticism (full-text). You can search this database by author and title. Contains excerpts and full-text information about authors, including some critical analysis of their works. Also includes Dictionary of Literary Biography, Contemporary Authors, Contemporary Literary Criticism

### ***Arts and Humanities Citation Index [**\*\* in Web of Science database**]*** (1983-)

Arts & Humanities Citation Index is a multidisciplinary index covering the journal literature of the arts and humanities. It fully covers 1,144 of the world's leading arts and humanities journals, and it indexes individually selected, relevant items from over 6,800 major science and social science journals. *AHCI* may be used to track what a particular author has published and who is citing their work. *Print copies of AHCI are in Watson Reference Stacks at Ref Z 5931 .A78 (1975-1995)*

### ***Proquest Research Library*** (1971-)

Formerly known as Periodical Abstracts. Indexes and abstracts general interest magazines and scholarly journals, trade publications, magazines and newspapers in the social sciences, humanities and sciences.

## **Finding Production Reviews**

Theatrical reviews published in *The New York Times* and *Variety* (and other newspapers) are available online in full text through *Lexis-Nexis Academic*.

### ***Lexis-Nexis Academic*** (database online)

Extensive array of full-text news (newspapers, wire services, transcripts and newsletters), business literature, industry and company information, legal, biographical, and reference resources. Select *Guided News Search* then, at **Step One: Select a news category**, select *Arts and Sports News*. At **Step Two: Select a news source**, select *Entertainment News* or *Book, Movie, Music and Play Reviews*.

*Aisle Say*                    <http://www.aislesay.com/>  
*Broadway.com*            <http://www.broadway.com/>  
*Curtain Up*                <http://www.curtainup.com/>

### **For older theatre reviews:**

*Historical New York Times (1851-1999)* (database online)

Offers full page and article images with searchable full text back to the first issue. The collection includes digital reproductions providing access to every page from every available issue.

*Readers' Guide Retrospective (1890-1982)* (database online)

Comprehensive indexing of the most popular general interest periodicals published in the U.S. and reflects the history of 20th century America.

**The New York Times theater reviews**

PN2266 .N48 (Watson Library Reference)

**National theatre critics' reviews**

PN2000 .N76 (Watson Library Reference)

**American literary and drama reviews : an index to late nineteenth century periodicals / P. Marks.**

PN2256 .M37 1984 (Watson Library Reference)

**A guide to critical reviews / by J.M. Salem**

Z5781 .S16 1984 (Watson Library Reference)

### **Finding Dissertations**

*Proquest Dissertations and Theses* (database online)

A good source for identifying current and past dissertations in French literature. Provides online access to over 2 million dissertations and master's theses, many of which are available in full text for immediate downloading. Citations are available for dissertations dating from 1861 and full text online from 1997 for over 1,000 schools submitting to the ProQuest UMI database.

*Dissertations and Theses @ University of Kansas* (database online)

Contains citations and abstracts of dissertations and theses submitted by the University of Kansas and published in UMI's Dissertations Abstracts database, and full text of KU dissertations published after 1996 and KU theses published after 2005.

### **Useful Web Resources**

*A Brief Guide to Internet Resources in Theatre and Performance Studies*

[http://www.stetson.edu/csata/thr\\_guid.html](http://www.stetson.edu/csata/thr_guid.html)

An excellent online research guide to sites that offer comprehensive listings, that offer something unique or interesting, or that serve as significant examples of well-managed and productive sites.

***Theatre History on the Web*** <http://www.videoccasions-nw.com/history/jack.html>

Provides links to a wide variety of sites related to theatre history from the classical period to the present, and also contains links to technical sites and professional organizations.

***Playbill*** <http://www.playbill.com/index.php>

One of the most extensive sources for all things drama on the Web, this site contains news from the United States and abroad, ticket information for New York and London, weekly Broadway grosses, job listings, and a reference area that includes awards information.

***Internet Broadway Database*** <http://www.ibdb.com/>

IBDb is the official database for Broadway theatre information. It provides records of productions from the beginnings of New York theatre until today. Details include pertinent people involved as well as interesting facts and production statistics.

***American Memory*** <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>

As part of the Library of Congress American Memory Collection, many examples of early American drama are presented in the forms of play scripts, filmed productions, or stills. Photo images of costumes. Of special interest is the American Variety Stage: Vaudeville and Popular Entertainment Project collections. Also of interest, New Deal Stage and Federal Theatre Project collections. Click on "Performing Arts and Music" link to get to the listing of collections.

***The English Server (EServer) Drama Collection*** <http://drama.eserver.org/>

This site contains a collection of original plays and screenplays, criticism and link to other sites concerned with theatre. Classic and contemporary works.

***SIBMAS - International Association of Libraries and Museums of the Performing Arts***

<http://www.sibmas.org/> Since 1954, SIBMAS has been the forum for colleagues from all over the world promoting research, practical and theoretical, in the documentation of the performing arts.

***Theatre Library Association*** <http://tla.library.unt.edu/>

Founded in 1937, the Theatre Library Association supports librarians and archivists affiliated with theatre, dance, performance studies, popular entertainment, motion picture and broadcasting collections.

***Costume Institute- Metropolitan Museum of Art***

[http://www.metmuseum.org/Works\\_of\\_Art/department.asp?dep=8](http://www.metmuseum.org/Works_of_Art/department.asp?dep=8)

Although primarily an introduction to the Museum and its holdings, this site does provide some excellent images of period costumes from a variety of locations and eras.

***Costumer's Manifesto*** <http://www.costumes.org/>

Contains hundreds of links to dozens of styles of clothing, makeup, wigs, and costume-related props.

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