

## ***DEPARTMENT READING LIST***

The following list of plays and books are highly recommended reading for each theatre arts major. They represent a sampling from most major playwrights and periods in dramatic literature, history, and theory. Some familiarity with most of these plays and authors will undoubtedly be helpful preparation for the senior comprehensive exam as well as standard general knowledge for future training/involvement in the field of theatre. (Many of these book are already required reading in our courses.)

### **PLAYS**

#### **Greek and Roman**

Aeschylus	The Oresteian Trilogy (Agamemnon, The Libation Bearers, The <i>Furies</i> )
Aristophanes	<i>Lysistrata</i>
Euripides	<i>The Bacchae, Medea</i>
Menander	<i>Dyskolos (a.k.a. The Grouch)</i>
Plautus	<i>The Menaechmi</i>
Sophocles	<i>Oedipus the King, Antigone</i>
Terence	<i>The Brothers</i>

#### **Medieval**

Anonymous	<i>The Second Shepherd's Play</i>
Anonymous	<i>Everyman</i>
Anonymous	Any play from the York cycle
Hrotsvit	<i>Dulcinius</i>

#### **The Italian Renaissance**

Machiavelli	<i>The Mandrake</i>
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#### **The English Renaissance**

Jonson	<i>Volpone</i>
Marlowe	<i>Dr. Faustus</i>
Webster	<i>The Duchess of Malfi</i>
Shakespeare	Four major tragedies ( <i>King Lear, Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello</i> ); Four major comedies ( <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream, As You Like It, Twelfth Night, The Taming of the Shrew</i> ); Four major histories ( <i>Julius Caesar, Henry IV part 1, Richard III, Henry V</i> )

#### **The French Renaissance**

Racine	<i>Phedre</i>
Moliere	<i>Tartuffe, The Misanthrope</i>

#### **The Spanish Golden Age**

Calderon	<i>Life is a Dream</i>
Lope de Vega	<i>Fuente Ovejuna</i>
Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz	<i>The Reply or The Divine Narcissus</i>

#### **English Restoration and 18th Century**

Behn	<i>The Rover</i>
Centlivre	<i>The Busy Body</i>
Congreve	<i>Way of the World</i>
Gay	<i>The Beggar's Opera</i>
Goldsmith	<i>She Stoops to Conquer</i>

Sheridan *The Rivals or The School for Scandal*  
Wycherly *The Country Wife*

### **German, French and Italian 18th Century**

Beaumarchais *The Marriage of Figaro or The Barber of Seville*  
Goldoni *The Servant of Two Master*  
Gozzi *The King Stag*  
Lessing *Nathan the Wise*

### **Romanticism/19th Century European**

Hugo *Hernani*  
Buechner *Woyzeck*

### **Pre-20th Century American**

Belasco *The Girl of the Golden West*  
Brown *A Leap to Freedom*  
Daly *Under the Gaslight*

### **The Modern Theatre (European)**

Brecht *Good Person of Setzuan, Mother Courage, Galileo, or Caucasian  
Chalk Circle*  
Chekhov *The Cherry Orchard, The Seagull*  
Ibsen *Hedda Gabler, A Doll House, Ghosts, The Wild Duck*  
Lorca *House of Bernarda Alba or Blood Wedding*  
Pirandello *Six Characters in Search of an Author*  
Shaw *Mrs. Warrens' Profession, Saint Joan*  
Strindberg *Miss Julie, A Dream Play*  
Synge *Playboy of the Western World*  
Wilde *The Importance of Being Earnest*

### **The Modern Theatre (American)**

Albee *The Zoo Story, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*  
Glaspell *Trifles*  
Grimké *Rachel*  
Hansberry *Raisin in the Sun*  
Hughes *Emperor of Haiti*  
Miller *Death of a Salesman, All My Sons or View from the Bridge*  
Odets *Waiting for Lefty*  
O'Neill *Long Day's Journey, The Iceman Cometh*  
Robins *Votes for Women!*  
Treadwell *Machinal*  
Wilder *Our Town*  
Williams *The Glass Menagerie, A Streetcar Named Desire*

### **Post-Modernism/Contemporary Theatre**

Baraka *Dutchman*  
Beckett *Waiting for Godot, Endgame*  
Churchill *Cloud Nine, Top Girls*  
Fornes *Fefu and Her Friends, The Conduct of Life*  
Fugard *Master Harold and the Boys or Sizwe Bansi is Dead*  
Gambaro *Personal Effects*  
Genet *The Balcony*  
Gordone *No Place to be Somebody*  
Gotanda *The Wash*

Hwang	<i>M. Butterfly</i>
Jingzhi, He	<i>The White Haired Girl</i>
Ionesco	<i>The Bald Soprano, The Lesson</i>
Kaufman	<i>The Laramie Project</i>
Kennedy	<i>Funnyhouse of a Negro</i>
Kramer	<i>The Normal Heart</i>
Kron	<i>Well, 2.5 Minute Ride</i>
Kushner	<i>Angels in America, Part One</i>
Mamet	<i>American Buffalo or Glengarry Glen Ross</i>
Moraga	<i>Giving up the Ghost</i>
McNally	<i>Love! Valor! Compassion!</i>
Osborne	<i>Look Back in Anger</i>
Parks	<i>The America Play, Topdog/ Underdog</i>
Pinter	<i>The Birthday Party, The Homecoming, Old Times</i>
Rivera	<i>Marisol</i>
Sartre	<i>No Exit</i>
Shaffer	<i>Equus</i>
Shange	<i>For Colored Girls... or Spell #7</i>
Shepard	<i>Buried Child or Tooth of Crime</i>
Smith, Anna Deavere	<i>Fires in the Mirror or Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992</i>
Soyinka	<i>Death and the King's Horseman</i>
Stoppard	<i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead, Arcadia</i>
Valdez	<i>Stinking Badges or Los Vendidos</i>
Vogel	<i>How I Learned to Drive</i>
Wasserstein	<i>The Heidi Chronicles</i>
Wilson, A.	<i>Joe Turner's Come and Gone, Fences or Ma Rainey's Black Bottom</i>
Wilson, L.	<i>Fifth of July, Talley's Folly</i>
Xingian, Gao	<i>The Bus Stop</i>
Yamauchi	<i>And the Soul Shall Dance</i>

### **Classical Asian Theatre**

Bhasa	<i>The Vision of Vasavadatta</i>
Chikamatsu	<i>The Love Suicides at Sonezaki or The Love Suicides at Amijima</i>
Danjuro	<i>Narukami or another Kabuki play</i>
Kalidasa	<i>Sakuntala</i>
Sudraka	<i>The Little Clay Cart (The Toy Cart)</i>
Wang Shifu	<i>The West Chamber</i>
Zeami	<i>Matsukaze or Atsumori</i>

### **SUBJECT READINGS**

#### **Design**

Aronson, Arnold	<i>American Set Design</i>
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Birn, Jeremy	<i>Digital Lighting and Rendering</i>
Brandi, Ulrike	<i>Lightbook: The Practice of Lighting Design</i>
Burian, Jarka	<i>The Scenography of Joseph Svoboda</i>
Corson, Richard	<i>Stage Makeup</i>
Craig, E. G.	<i>Scene</i>
---	<i>On the Art of the Theatre</i>
Demers, Owen	<i>Digital Texturing and Painting</i>
Gillette, J. Michael	<i>Designing with Light</i>

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Gorelik, Morecai  
Hainaux, Rene  
1970's)  
Harris, Andrew  
Eckart  
Hat, Avril, Susan North, R. Davis  
Henderson, Mary C.  
Huber, David and Robert Ronstein  
Huber, David and Philip William  
Huntington, John  
Ingram/Covey  
Izenour, George  
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Johnston, Lucy  
Jones, Robert E.  
Keller, Max  
Koda, Harold  
Kyoto Costume Institute (ed.)  
Larson, Orville K.  
Laver, James  
Leacroft, Richard & Helen  
Mielziner, Jo.  
Millin, Donald C.  
Miller, Judith  
*Decorating*  
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Moody, James  
Oenslager, Donald  
Orton, Keith  
Payne, Blanche  
Pecktal, Lynn  
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Pilbrow, Richard  
Rose, Rich  
Rosenthal, Jean  
Russell, Douglas  
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Schiller, Brad  
Simonson, Lee  
Smith, Ronn  
Steele, Valerie  
Taymor, Julie  
Warfel, William  
Watson, Lee  
Whiton, Sherrill
- Acting**  
Adler, Stella  
Benedetti, Robert  
Berry, Cicely  
Bogart, Anne
- Theatrical Design and Production*  
*New Theatres for Old*  
*Stage Design Since...(The 1950's, The 1960's, and The*  
*The Performing Set: Broadway Designs of Will. & Jean*  
*Historical Fashion in Detail: The 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Centuries*  
*Mielziner: Master of Modern Stage Design*  
*Modern Recording Techniques, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.*  
*Professional Microphone Techniques*  
*Control Systems for Live Entertainment*  
*The Costumer's Handbook*  
*Theatre Design, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.*  
*Theatre Technology, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.*  
*19<sup>th</sup> Century Fashion in Detail*  
*The Dramatic Imagination*  
*Light Fantastic: The Art and Design of Stage Lighting*  
*Extreme Beauty: The Body Transformed*  
*Fashion*  
*Scene Design in the American Theatre from 1915-1960*  
*Costume in the Theatre*  
*Theatre and Playhouse*  
*Designing for the Theatre*  
*The Development of the Playhouse*  
*Period Finishes and Effects: A Step-By-Step Guide to*  
*Furniture: World Styles*  
*The Style Source Book: Fabrics, Wallpapers, Paints, Flooring, etc*  
*Concert Lighting*  
*Stage Design*  
*Model Making for the Stage: A Practical Guide*  
*History of Costume*  
*Designing and Painting for the Theatre*  
*Designing and Drawing for the Theatre*  
*Costume Design: Techniques of Modern Masters 1*  
*Stage Lighting Design: The Art, the Craft, the Life*  
*Drafting Scenery for the Theatre*  
*The Magic of Light*  
*Stage Costume Design*  
*Period Style for the Theatre*  
*The Automated Lighting Programmers Handbook*  
*The Stage is Set*  
*American Set Design II*  
*The Corset: A Cultural History*  
*Playing with Fire*  
*The New Handbook of Stage Lighting Graphics*  
*Lighting Design Handbook*  
*Interior Design and Decoration*  
*Technique of Acting*  
*The Actor at Work*  
*The Actor and the Text*  
*Viewpoints*

Bruder, Melissa  
Chekhov, Michael  
Crawford, Jerry  
Delgado, Ramon  
Gronbeck,-Tedesco, J. L.  
Hagen, Uta  
Halpern, Charna  
Harrop/Epstein  
Hull, Loraine  
Johnstone, Keith  
Lewis, Robert  
Linklater, Kristin  
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Mamet, David  
May, Rollo  
Meisner, Stanford  
Moore, Sonia  
Morris, Eric  
Poggi, Jack  
Sher, Anthony  
Shurtleff, Michael  
Skinner, Edith  
Spolin, Viola  
Stanislavsky  
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Suzuki, Tadashi  
Zarilli, Philip (ed)

*The Practical Handbook of the Actor*  
*To the Actor*  
*Acting in Person and in Style*  
*Acting with Both Sides of the Brain*  
*Acting Through Exercises*  
*Respect for Acting*  
*Truth in Comedy*  
*Acting with Style*  
*Strasberg's Method*  
*Impro*  
*Advice to the Players*  
*Freeing the Natural Voice*  
*Freeing Shakespeare's Voice*  
*True and False*  
*The Courage to Create*  
*On Acting*  
*The Stanislavsky System*  
*No Acting Please*  
*The Monologue Workshop*  
*Year of the King*  
*Audition*  
*Speak with Distinction*  
*Improvisation for the Theatre*  
*An Actor Prepares*  
*Building a Character*  
*Creating a Role*  
*The Way of Acting*  
*Acting (Re)considered*

### **Theatre History & Criticism**

Arnott, Peter  
Artaud, Antonin  
Auslander & Sandahl (eds)  
Baldry, H.C.  
Bial, Henry  
Brandon, James ed.  
Brazell, Karen  
Brockett, Oscar  
Brustein, Robert  
Case, Sue-Ellen  
Chute, Marchette  
Driver, Tom  
Esslin, Martin  
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Grotowski, Jerry  
Harris, John  
Hill, Errol (ed.)  
Huxley & Witts  
Keene, Donald  
Mackerras, Colin ed.  
Pavis, Patrice  
Richmond, Farley  
Roose-Evans, James  
Rudlin, John

*Public and Performance in Greek Theatre*  
*The Theatre and Its Double*  
*Bodies in Commotion: Disability & Performance*  
*The Greek Tragic Theatre*  
*A Performance Studies Reader*  
*Studies in Kabuki*  
*Traditional Japanese Theatre*  
*History of the Theatre*  
*The Theatre of Revolt*  
*Feminism and Theatre*  
*Shakespeare of London*  
*Romantic Quest and Modern Query*  
*The Theatre of the Absurd*  
*Brecht: The Man and his Work*  
*Towards a Poor Theatre*  
*Medieval Theatre in Context*  
*The Theatre of Black Americans*  
*The 20<sup>th</sup> Century Performance Reader*  
*No and Bunraku*  
*Chinese Theatre*  
*The Intercultural Performance Reader*  
*Indian Theatre*  
*Experimental Theatre*  
*Commedia Dell' Arte: An Actor's Handbook*

Schechner, Richard  
Styan, J.L.  
Vardac, Nicholas  
Watson and McKernie  
Willet, John ed.

*Performance Studies: An Introduction*  
*Restoration Comedy in Performance*  
*From Stage to Screen*  
*A Cultural History of the Theatre*  
*Brecht on Theatre*

### **Directing**

Bartow, Arthur  
Ball, David  
Ball, William  
Bogart, Anne  
---.  
Braun, Kazimierz  
Brook, Peter  
Clurman, Harold  
Cohen, Robert  
Cole, Susan  
Cole, Toby  
Delgado, and Heritage  
Donkin and Clement  
Harrop /Epstein  
Jones, David R.  
Manful, Helen  
Shapiro, Mel  
Zarrilli, Philip et al

*The Director's Voice*  
*Backwards and Forwards*  
*A Sense of Direction*  
*Viewpoints*  
*A Director Prepares*  
*Directing: Arts, Ethics, Creativity*  
*The Empty Space*  
*On Directing*  
*Creative Play Direction*  
*Directors in Rehearsal*  
*Directors on Directing*  
*In Contact with the Gods: Directors Talk*  
*Upstaging Big Daddy: Directing as if Race and Gender Matter*  
*Acting with Style*  
*Great Directors at Work*  
*In Other Words: Women Directors Speak*  
*The Director's Handbook*  
*Theatre Histories: An Introduction*

### **Playwriting**

Ball, David  
Castagno, Paul  
Catron, Louis  
Cohen, Edward  
Cole, Susan Letzler  
Downs & Wright  
Garrison, Gary  
---.  
Savran, David  
*Playwrights*  
---.  
Singer, Dana  
Smiley, Sam  
Sweet, Jeffrey  
---.  
Van-Itallie, Jean-Claude  
Wright, Michael  
---.  
Wright & Pyland (ed.)

*Backwards & Forwards*  
*New Playwriting Strategies*  
*Elements of Playwriting*  
*Working on a New Play*  
*Playwriting in Rehearsal*  
*Playwrighting from Formula to Form*  
*Perfect 10*  
*The Playwright's Survival Guide*  
*In Their Own Words: Interview with Cont. American*  
  
*The Playwright's Voice*  
*Stage Writer's Handbook*  
*The Structure of Action*  
*The Dramatist's Toolkit*  
*Solving Your Script*  
*The Playwright's Workbook*  
*Playwriting in Process*  
*Playwriting Master Class*  
*The Student's Guide to Playwriting Opportunities*