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The Playwright's Voice: American Dramatists On Memory, Writing And The Politics Of Culture



Synopsis

This new volume of interviews with contemporary playwrights attests to the fact the dramatic art is alive and well in America and celebrates the art and talent of fifteen of the theatre's most important artists. In extensive interviews, they discuss their work, influences and their craft and how the art form relates to our cultural heritage, as well as the state of theatre-its-meaning and purposes as we approach the 21st Century. David Savran lays out their remarkable achievements and provides telling insights to their work in his substantial introductions to each interview. Interviews with: Edward AlbeeJon Robin BaitzPhilip Kan GotandaHolly HughesTony KushnerTerrence McNallySuzan-Lori ParksJosÃ©fÃ© RiveraNtozake ShangeNicky SilverAnna Deavere SmithPaula VogelWendy WassersteinMac Wellman and George C. Wolfe.

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Customer Reviews

I love this book, and his other collection of playwright interviews, and use whenever I teach playwriting. The interviews are intelligent, curious, in-depth; the writers represented in these books come to theater from completely different angles, and work in completely different ways, and are united only by their seriousness in pursuing a very difficult craft. Inspiring.

I'm a little surprised I don't see this book floating around more amongst students of theater. Okay, for disclosure's sake, I'm one of the folks interviewed but that's not why I'm recommending it. It's simply a good, informative, entertaining read if you want some insight into what American

playwrights are thinking. There are so few books out there of this kind and this one by David Savran deserves more play than I think it's been getting. If you're a playwright or studying theater or a theater goer, I think you'll find this book a good resource. I know I've gone back several times to reread sections depending on whose play I had just read or seen.

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