



The Theatre Experience, 14th edition

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Overall Changes

The 14th edition of *The Theatre Experience* has been updated, taking note of new talent that has appeared on the scene as well as new approaches to writing, directing, acting, and design presented in previous editions. New plays, new productions, new approaches, and new subject matter have all been recognized and explained. At the same time, well-established forerunners in the theatre universe, whether Greek, Roman, Elizabethan, or later, have been looked at anew.

The most significant changes in the 14th edition appear in Part Five, "The Theatre Today." This has been condensed to two chapters from three, and detailed information on history has been edited and reduced. This movement away from extensive theatre history in Part Five has allowed more space for what is suggested in the title of this section—the theatre today—therefore making this edition of *The Theatre Experience* more relevant to today's instructors and learners alike.

All elements of today's theatre are covered more thoroughly and clearly. Subjects such as women's theatre, LGBTQ theatre, global theatre, and theatre of diversity are dealt with in more detail and depth than in previous editions.

Chapter Changes

Chapter 1: The Audience: Its Role and Imagination

The opening section of Chapter 1 has been completely revised. In addition, a section titled “The Mediated Arts: Film and Television” has been introduced.

Chapter 3: Theatre Spaces

- New description of the transformation of the Broadway Imperial Theatre for the musical *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* as an example of how space is a key element of a production.
- The discussion of stage directions has been moved to this chapter from the chapter on scenery to help students better understand the proscenium theatre.

Chapter 4: Acting for the Stage

- More extensive discussion of contemporary acting techniques and actor training.
- New "In Focus" box on technology and the actor.

Chapter 5: The Director and the Producer

- Extensive discussion of the responsibilities of the stage manager and the casting director.
- New "In Focus" box on color-blind and nontraditional casting.

Chapter 7: Dramatic Structure and Dramatic Characters

- Updated "In Focus" box on writing for theatre, film, and television as well as extensive coverage of dramatic structure in all its forms and variations. Also, detailed analysis of dramatic characters, both human and nonhuman. Included as well are such matters as the orchestration and juxtaposition of characters.

Chapter 8: Theatrical Genres

- New "In Focus" box on additional forms and the debate over categorization.

Chapter 9: Scenery

- Enhanced discussion of video and projection design.
- New "In Focus" box on projection design.
- Enhanced discussion of the use of technology to assist the scene designer.

Chapter 10: Stage Costumes

- New "In Focus" box on technology and costume design.

Chapter 11: Lighting and Sound

- New "In Focus" box on rock concert and theatre lighting.
- New discussion of assistive listening devices for audience members who are hearing impaired.

Chapter 12: The Theatre Today: Traditional, Musical, Nontraditional, and Political Theatre.

- A complete, thorough revision of both Chapters 12 and 13 (reduced from three chapters in previous editions to two in this edition).
- This chapter includes revised coverage of traditional theatre in today's theatre as well as musical theatre. In addition, it covers new material on nontraditional and political theatre.

Chapter 13: Global Theatre Today: Diverse and Global

- Covers a wide range of contemporary theatre, including new material on feminist and women playwrights, continuing with LGBTQ, African American, Latino/a, and Native American theatre, and concluding with global theatre covering theatrical activity in six continents.
- Questions on how to evaluate a production of a historic play as well as how to evaluate a production of a new or contemporary play.

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