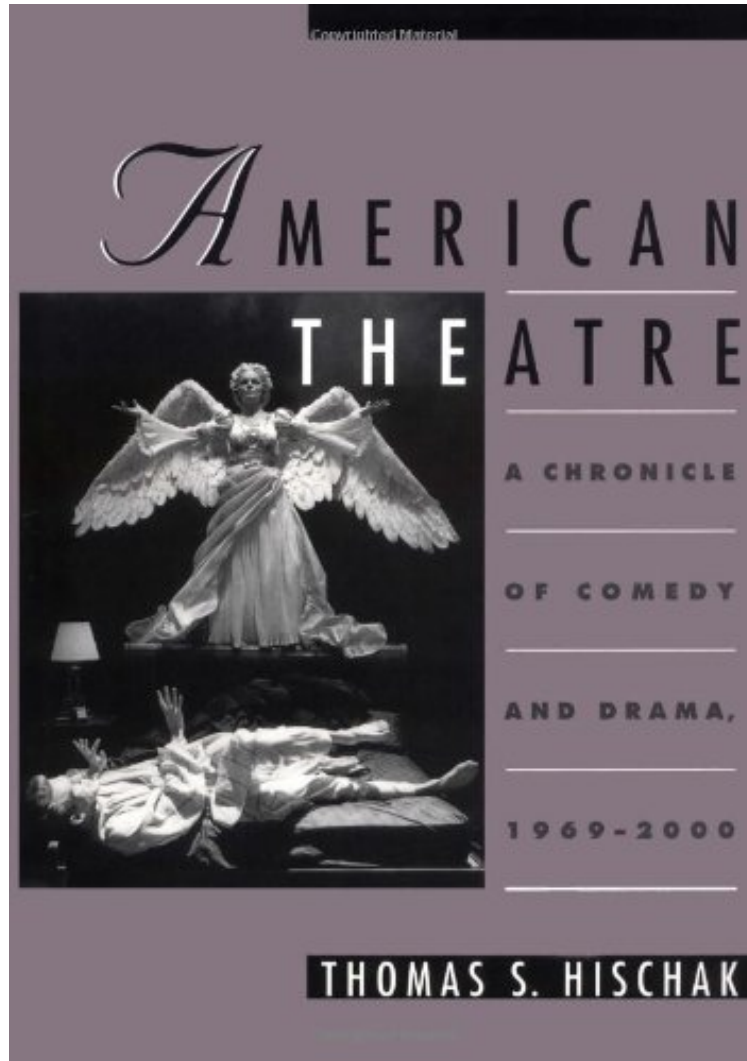


American Theatre: A Chronicle of Comedy and Drama, 1969-2000

Thomas S. Hischak

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Thomas S. Hischak : American Theatre: A Chronicle of Comedy and Drama, 1969-2000 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Theatre: A Chronicle of Comedy and Drama, 1969-2000:

Volume Four of the distinguished American Theatre: A Chronicle of Comedy and Drama series offers a thorough, candid, and fascinating look at the theater in New York during the last decades of the twentieth century.

From Library Journal In this chronicle of New York nonmusical theater, every play produced in the years 1969 to 2000, from Broadway to Off Broadway, is discussed in four chapters, with seasons grouped by topical issues. Hischak (theater, SUNY at Cortland), who won ALA's Outstanding Academic Book award in 1995 for *The American Musical Theatre Song Encyclopedia*, examines over 2000 plays though the issues addressed are hardly common to all and reflect only a few memorable productions. Each year gets an overview comment, while each play gets a summary, an actor comment, and a statement about its critical reception. Since there are no pictures, this is not a coffee-table book but a well-written diary of theater events whose double-column, small-print format belies the energy and readability of the text. While the result is a valuable reference, especially for those plays we have all forgotten, the title is misleading. The period covered encompasses a rise in regional American theaters, and though New York remained the hub, new plays were often generated in the healthy theater world beyond Manhattan. This oversight calls for another chronicle. Recommended for academic and large public libraries. Thomas E. Luddy, Salem State Coll., MA Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. "This volume is just as valuable as the previous ones for all major and minor library collections and all theatre historians and aficionados should have it in their collections."-- Broadside About the Author Thomas S. Hischak is at State University of New York, College of Cortland.