

# BROADSIDE

NEWSLETTER OF THE THEATRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 2

FALL 1977

NEW SERIES

## GEORGE FREEDLEY AND THEATRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AWARDS

The ceremony for the Ninth Annual George Freedley Memorial Award presentation, combined with the Fourth Theatre Library Association Award presentation, was held in the Hospitality Suite at Number One Times Square on 9 May 1977. Morton Gottlieb, Broadway theatrical producer, presented the 1976 George Freedley Award to Gerald Kahan for *Jacques Callot: Artist of the Theatre* (University of Georgia Press). An Honorable Mention Certificate was awarded Charles Shattuck for *Shakespeare on the American Stage* (Folger Shakespeare Library). The 1976 Theatre Library Association Award was presented to Fred W. Friendly for *The Good Guys, the Bad Guys and the First Amendment: Free Speech and Fairness in Broadcasting* (Random House) by Robert Saudex, President of the Museum of Broadcasting.

Among the books considered for the Freedley Award were *All Silver and No Brass* by Henry Glassie (Indiana University Press); *Cabaret* by Lisa Appignanesi (Universe Books); *French Theatrical Production in the Nineteenth Century* by Allan S. Jackson (Max Reinhardt Foundation with the Center for Modern Theater Research); *The Golden Age of the Chinese Drama* by Chung-wen Shih (Princeton University Press); *Medieval Religious Stage* by A. M. Nagler (Yale University Press); *The Scandinavian Theatre* by Frederick and Lise-Lone Marker (Rowman and Littlefield) and *Step Right Up* by Brooks McNamara (Doubleday).

Contenders for the Theatre Library Association Award included *The Cool Fire* by Robert Shanks

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## AND JONAH WAS . . .

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of John A. Maynard's typewritten script of *Jonah: a Play in Five Episodes* (Boston: American Unitarian Association, n.d.) is advised to please inform Professor George Ralph, Department of Theatre, Hope College, Holland, Michigan 49423. Professor Ralph is presently engaged in a research project dealing with plays in English based on the biblical *Book of Jonah*.



## ASTR-TLA SPEAKERS SERIES

The American Society for Theatre Research and the Theatre Library Association are joining together to initiate a series of free lectures to be given in New York City in January, March and April 1978. The lecture series, entitled "Contributions to Theatre History," will feature talks by prominent theatre practitioners and scholars.

In the initial lecture Alan Schneider will discuss his direction of the plays of Samuel Beckett. Mr. Schneider's presentation has taken place on Monday, January 30, 1978. On March 6th Professor Charles Shattuck will lecture on his recent work on Shakespearean production in America and on April 17th Gerald Schoenfeld, Chairman of the Shubert Organization, will talk on the history of the Shuberts and their theatre operations.

All three lectures will take place at 8 p.m. in Room 207 of the Graduate Center of City University, 33 West 42d Street, between Fifth and Sixth Avenues. Refreshments will be served. All members of ASTR and TLA and their guests are cordially invited to attend. Please mark your calendar accordingly.

## TLA ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting of the Theatre Library Association was held in the Vincent Astor Gallery of the Library & Museum of the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center on 17 November 1977 prior to the opening of the three-day Conference on the History of American Popular Entertainment under the auspices of the American Society for Theatre Research and the Theatre Library Association.

The minutes of the 1976 annual meeting were read and approved following minor corrections. By consensus of the membership present it was decided to publish the minutes of all future annual meetings in *Broadside* so that a complete reading of same will not be required at each meeting in future.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Richard M. Buck who reported that TLA's current bank balance is \$10,836.88 as compared with \$7,589.96 in October 1976, an increase of \$3,246.92 including \$399.00 earmarked for the George Freedley Memorial Fund. Also included is the \$3,832.64 from the 1969 International Federation for Theatre Research Congress which is to be used for international educational purposes. The subtraction of this amount from the treasury leaves an operating balance of \$7,004.24.

Paid TLA memberships as of November 1977 are 193 as compared to 223 in October 1976. Paid institutional memberships total 183 as compared to 200 a year ago. The decrease in total membership is due to the dropping of all unpaid members for February 1977. The Secretary-Treasurer has been charged by the Executive Board to drop all unpaid members from the rolls thirteen months after the beginning of any dues period during which their dues

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## TLA ANNUAL MEETING

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are not paid. (Members wishing to avail themselves of a detailed breakdown of the Treasurer's Report may do so by contacting the Secretary-Treasurer at the Library & Museum of the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center.)

President Brooks McNamara announced that the TLA Summer Meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual American Library Association Conference in Chicago during the week of 25 June to 3 July 1978. TLA hopes to have panel discussions on "Appraisals" and "Preservation" of performing arts materials. In addition to the two panels the President expressed the possibility of a view and discussion of one of the Shubert Theatres in Chicago. Richard Buck will represent TLA at the mid-Winter Meeting in Chicago next January at which time he will pursue conference organizational matters.

Mr. McNamara also urged the TLA membership and Board of Directors to push harder to publicize the George Freedley and TLA Book Awards. The 1976 Awards ceremony was broadcast live over radio, but Mr. McNamara feels that more coverage should be obtained from television and the news media as well as from performing arts reviewers and critics. It was suggested that TLA members submit ideas, suggestions and nominations of book titles for award consideration to Dorothy Swerdlow of the Theatre Collection at Lincoln Center who will forward them on to the Book Award Juries.

The President announced that a program of Speakers Series, co-sponsored by TLA and ASTR entitled "Contributions to Theatre History" will be launched early next year. The first lecture in the series will be by Alan Schneider who will discuss his direction of the plays of Samuel Beckett on 30 January 1978 at the Graduate Center of the City University in New York. (See "ASTR-TLA Speakers Series" article in this issue of *Broadside* for particulars). It is also hoped that two theatre walking tours can be arranged in the near future — one of the Broadway district and the other of the 14th Street area.

Richard M. Buck reported that floods and other "catastrophes" have delayed publication of *Performing Arts Resources* (PAR III). Because

of this delay TLA dues notices have not been sent. However, if back dues are not paid by January 1978 delinquent members will be dropped. Dr. Mary C. Henderson, editor of PAR IV, reported that she has received seven articles for Volume IV and has been promised two more. PAR IV will deal entirely with theatre and performing arts collections outside the United States.

Seventy-five ballots were cast in the election of "Class B" Directors to the TLA Board. The following members were elected: Mary Ashe of the San Francisco Public Library, Tino Balio of the Wisconsin Center for Film and Theatre Research, Alfred S. Golding of the Ohio State University Theatre Research Institute and Elizabeth D. Walsh of the Research Center for the Federal Theatre Project at George Mason University.

In closing Dr. Golding announced plans for the Fifth Annual OSU Theatre History Conference to be held in Columbus, Ohio March 3-5, 1978. There is to be an emphasis on the importance of standardization of theatre technology with major concentration on non-book materials. (See "OSU Theatre History Conference" article in this issue of *Broadside* for particulars)

Immediately following adjournment of the annual meeting an informal panel discussion on "Library Appraisals" was held. Panelists were Lee Ash, Library Consultant, Mary C. Henderson, Associate Curator of the Theatre and Music Division of the Museum of the City of New York and Richard Stoddard, dealer in rare and out-of-print books and ephemera of the performing arts. Louis A. Rachow, Curator-Librarian of The Walter Hampden-Edwin Booth Theatre Collection and Library at The Players, served as moderator. The discussion, open to ASTR members and CHAPE Conference participants and attendees as well, was received favorably. An abstract of the discussion will appear in a future issue of *Broadside*.

—Paul R. Palmer,  
Recording Secretary



## THEATRE ANNUAL

The 1977 *Theatre Annual* (Vol. XXXIII) is off the press with the following articles: "Long Day's Journey into Night (Mary) and Streetcar Named Desire (Blanche): an Inquiry in Compassion" by Enrico F. Garzilli; "Tennessee Williams' 'Kingdom of Earth': the Orpheus Myth Revisited" by Craig D. Clinton; "David Storey's 'In Celebration' and Gabriel Cousin's 'Journey to the Mountain Beyond': 'Maw' to Mater gloriosa" by Bettina L. Knapp; "Jesus as Narrator: Albee's Case for Fiction in 'The Zoo Story'" by R. F. Dietrich; "The Repertory and Size of Pembroke's Company" by Karl P. Wentersdorf; and "'A Forgotten Arlequin Grant Vixir of 1687' and its Echoes in the Theatre de la Foire" by C. D. Rouillard.

Copies may be obtained by sending three dollars to the *Theatre Annual*, Department of Theatre, Hiram College, Hiram, Ohio 44234. Checks are to be made payable to Hiram College. Libraries, institutions and individuals may place standing orders if they so desire.

## ASSOCIATION AWARDS

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(W. W. Norton and Co.); *The Filming of the West* by Jon Tuska (Doubleday); *The Mexican Cinema* by Beatriz Nevaes (University of New Mexico Press) and *The World in a Frame* by Leo Braudy (Doubleday).

The selection of the Awards winners was determined by separate three-member juries appointed by the President of the Theatre Library Association:

*George Freedley Award*: Don Wilmeth, C chairman, Associate Professor and Executive Officer, Theatre Arts, Brown University, Providence, R. I.; Allan S. Jackson, Associate Professor, Department of Theatre, State University of New York at Binghamton; Robert H. Ball of Port Washington, Long Island, N. Y.

*Theatre Library Association Award*: R. Talmadge Russell, Chairman, Director of Theatre, Department of Speech and Drama, North Dakota State University, Fargo; Stuart Chenoweth, Department of Drama, San Francisco State University; Laraine Correll, Director of Resource Division, The Charles MacArthur Center for American Theatre, Tallahassee, Florida.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

BLOODGOOD, Clara (1870-1907). Actress. Biography. Thomas Erroll, 164-05 35th Avenue, Flushing, N. Y. 11358

BOUCICAULT, Dion (1820-1890). Actor-Playwright. Biography. Christopher Calthrop, Green Room Club, 9 Adam Street, London WC2N 6AA, England.

BRAGDON, Claude (1866-1946). Author, Designer and Architect. Ph. D. Research. David A. Siegfried, 4229 Bennington Blvd., Brunswick, Ohio.

CARTER, Mrs. Leslie (1862-1937). Actress. Ph. D. Research. Charles H. Harper, 2440 N.W. 6th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68521.

CHAPLIN, Charles (1889-1977). Biography. Tom Munro, 6810 Dutch Hill Road, Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066.

ELIZABETHAN POPULAR ENTERTAINERS. Ph. D. Research. New York University. Kathleen Dacre, 424 East 52nd Street, N. Y. 10022.

EVANS, Maurice (1901- ). Actor-Producer. Biography. Alexander L. Nicol, 10601 Ohio Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90024.

HUTCHINSON FAMILY (Singers) (Tribe of Jesse - 19th Century). Ernestine Perrie, Box 306, Remsenburg, N. Y. 11960.

JARRETT, Henry C. (d. 1886) and Henry David Palmer. Managers of Booth's Theatre (1874-1877) regarding first continuous transcontinental train, New York to San Francisco, June 1876. Daniel R. Seigle, P. O. Box 909, Radio City Station, New York, N. Y. 10019.

KERN, Jerome (1885-1945). Composer. Biography. Gerry Bordmann, Box 113, R. D. 2, Nottingham, Pennsylvania 19362.

MCCULLOUGH, John (1832-1885). Actor-Producer. Ph. D. Research. Bruce E. Woodruff, Dept. of Drama, Huron College, Huron, South Dakota 57350.

MAGICIAN and the Cinema. American Film Institute Project. Erik Barnouw, 39 Claremont Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10027.

REICH, William Augustus (Stage Name, Gus Rich) North Carolina Tinsmith and Magician. Linda D. Le Mieux, Curatorial Dept., Old Salem, Inc., Winston-Salem, N. C. 27108.

ROSS, Fred G. (Actor - Edwin Booth's 1881-1882 Season) Travis M. Bogard, Dept. of Dramatic Art, University of California, Berkeley 94720.

## BARNARD HEWITT AWARD

The University Theatre of the University of Illinois-Urbana and the American Theatre Association announce the *Barnard Hewitt Award* for "Outstanding Research in Theatre History". The five hundred dollar award is to be presented annually at the ATA National Convention to an individual United States scholar or group of scholars who have produced a work judged to be outstanding in the field of theatre history. The works to be judged may or may not have been published but must be in archivable form — paper, article, monograph, film, tape, etc. — and datable as completed within the calendar year prior to the year the award is presented. The third presentation will be made at the ATA Convention in August 1978 in New Orleans.

The Judging Committee for the 1977 Barnard Hewitt Award is composed of Professors Gerald Kahan, Department of Drama of the University of Georgia, Chairman; Marvin A. Carlson, Cornell University and Brooks McNamara of New York University. This panel will evaluate all works which have been submitted for consideration by members of ATA and by other scholars and interested persons. *Only work nominated in this fashion will be considered for the award.* The selection process must be completed by the end of June 1978, so nominations should be made no later than the end of the first quarter of 1978. All submissions should be made in four copies.

This is the first major award for research in Theatre History in the United States, and the University Theatre of the University of Illinois-Urbana and the American Theatre Association take pride in the fact that it is a living, continuing tribute to one of the outstanding scholars of the American Theatre, Barnard Hewitt, Chairman of the Department of Theatre at the University of Illinois at Urbana.

SAINT-DENIS, Michel (Director and Educator 1897-1971) Biography. A. C. Scott, c/o Madame Suria Saint-Denis, 2 Bloomfield Terrace, London SW 1, England.

VAUDEVILLE (DRAMA IN) Book. Mari Lyn Henry, 115 West 71 Street, New York, N. Y. 10023.

VAUDEVILLE (QUICK CHANGE ARTISTS) Book. Jim Moore, Director, The Silent Performer Workshop, One Hudson Street, New York, N. Y. 10013.

## ACQUISITIONS FROM THE FIELD

*American Place Theatre: Scripts, promptbooks, technical drawings of productions.* The American Place Theatre, 111 West 46 Street, New York, N. Y. 10036.

*Juvenile Drama (English):* H. C. Sage Collection of some 16,000 items including approximately 250 different editions of plays by a variety of English and continental European publishers, numerous theatrical portraits and sheets of "fours", favorite pantomime characters and 36 pen and ink drawings by the early 20th-century publisher George Conetta. University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.

*La Mama Experimental Theatre Club:* Several hundred items documenting the activities of the La Mama Experimental Theatre Club during the period when La Mama was located at 122 Second Avenue in New York City. The collection as a whole may well be the most complete in existence for the years 1965-68 since Ellen Stewart did not begin formation of systematic archives of her achievements until the move to 74 East 4th Street. Gift of Paul F. Cranefield to The Walter Hampden-Edwin Booth Theatre Collection at The Players, 16 Gramercy Park, New York, N. Y. 10003.

*Latin American Theatre:* Over 1,000 plays and reference books including many manuscripts and out-of-print publications. While most of the scripts are in Spanish or Portuguese some English translations are available. Theatre of Latin America (TOLA), 1860 Broadway, New York, N. Y. 10023.

*Rosenthal, Jean (1912-1969).* Lighting Designer. Broadway production records. Theatre Collection, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin 53706.

*Stage Lighting:* Nannanne Porcher lighting records including Lyric Opera of Chicago, 1961-66; Dallas Civic Opera, 1959-64, 1969 and American Ballet Theatre, 1965-66, 1971-77. Nannanne Porcher Osprey Designs, 49 West 96 Street, New York, N. Y. 10028.

*Stage Lighting:* Equipment and manufacturer's records of American theatre lighting — drawings, lab notes, correspondence, catalogs, books, slides, lighting layouts and schedules. Pennsylvania State University Library, University Park, Pennsylvania 16802. Contact William H. Allison.

## RESTORING PIPER'S OPERA HOUSE

One of America's most remarkable historic theatres — Piper's Opera House in Virginia City, Nevada — is gradually being restored and returned to use as a practical theatre in an equally remarkable way. The project to date has cost well over \$100,000, all of which has been paid out of the purse of Louise Driggs of Englewood, New Jersey, great granddaughter of the builder John Piper. As heir to the interesting 1885 playhouse, she feels saving the building from collapse and giving it new performing life with annual summer programs of mime, dance and chamber music is a personal responsibility.

Apparently the State of Nevada — not noted for its cultural activities in any case — does not share her belief that its history and culture should be preserved, not only for what it meant in the past, but also for what it can become in the future. No aid, financial or otherwise, has been forthcoming. Nor have major foundations yet given assistance. Mrs. Driggs sees Piper's as a focal point of activity should Virginia City, already a National Historic District and rich in handsome brick and wood Victorian buildings, develop into an arts center attracting students, artists and tourists.

Piper's Opera House can seat 900 — with 100 standees — in main-floor chairs and balcony benches. Acoustics are excellent, and the house resonates even to the music of a single guitar. Walls of tinder-dry wood, from 16-18 inches thick and an auditorium floor resting on heavy railroad springs help make this possible. The springy floor was also useful when a thousand miners and their ladies danced the Virginia Reel. In the 1920's and later, when the theatre became a movie house, roller-skating and basketball also took advantage of the springs.

The stage has four sets of hinged overhead grooves in perfect condition as are the original 1885 sets. On the wooden grid wooden sheaves and blocks are still functional. The stage, thirty-two feet deep, rises five inches from front to back, to compensate for the flat main floor. The proscenium opening is thirty feet

wide by twenty feet high with ten feet wing space on each side. There are double-decker stage boxes on each side.

Restoration is a slow process, done only in summer when Mrs. Driggs is in residence. A major job was pouring concrete foundations after the sagging old house was jacked up. The stage has been rebuilt. The roof has been repaired. New muslin has been tightly stretched over the interior ready for restoration of old decoration. The adjacent Piper home has been converted to artists' quarters and Green Room, but much remains to be done. Mrs. Driggs's aide in the restoration, Tom Prewitt of the Theatre Department of the University of Nevada in Reno, is currently examining the detailed files and accounts of John Piper. He plans several articles and a longer study of the house and its history. Piper's receipts show, for instance, where every fitting came from and its cost. His correspondence includes dealings with young Daniel Frohman in San Francisco and with David Belasco who acted for a time in Piper's troupe in Virginia City where he became involved in a lynching. Theatre historians who wish to visit Piper's Opera House will find it open year-round. Concerts are usually given in July and August is reserved for continued restoration.

----- Glenn Loney

### MAILING ADDRESSES FOR TLA

NEWSLETTER ONLY: Send news items, announcements, books for review and comments for *Broadside* directly to the Editor: Louis A. Rachow, The Walter Hampden-Edwin Booth Theatre Collection and Library, 16 Gramercy Park, New York, N. Y. 10003.

DUES, CONTRIBUTIONS, CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICES AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE to the Secretary-Treasurer: Richard M. Buck, Performing Arts Research Center, The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center, 111 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10023.

## OSU THEATRE HISTORY CONFERENCE

"Making the Performing Arts Collection Accessible to the Historian" is the theme of the 1978 Ohio State University Theatre Research Institute Conference to be held at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, March 3-5.

The three-day symposium will attempt to fulfill a four-fold purpose: (1) Identify major problems concerning the accessibility of performing arts documents/artifacts for research, (2) Suggest methods by which the historian may utilize existing data banking processes and projects for performing arts research, (3) Design the mechanism for formulating and gaining acceptance of a uniform terminology for referencing "non-book" documents/artifacts relating to the performing arts, and (4) Formulate a minimal set of standard terms and indexing modes which, with the aid of the computer, can be used to create a simplified inventory of documents/artifacts within a collection, as well as a simplified union inventory of many collections.

Full particulars on the conference may be obtained from Dr. Alfred S. Golding, Director, Theatre Research Institute, 305 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

### CALLING SHERLOCK HOLMES

Darleen Rhoades, 4410 Swift Drive, Beaumont, Texas 77703, is searching for material on her great aunt Minnie Belle Tewksbury and great uncle Sidney Barrington Tewksbury who sang and danced as Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Barrington. Mrs. Barrington died circa 1912. Her husband died 10 January 1913. Both are buried in their native San Francisco.

Anyone possessing a script for Cole Porter's *Seven Lively Arts* is asked to contact the Cole Porter Musical and Literary Property Trusts, 345 Park Avenue (27th Floor), New York, N. Y. 10022.

Fred Wall, 6 Rowland Avenue, Prospect, Connecticut 06712 is in the market for film books by John Willis.

Officers of the Theatre Library Association (founded 1937); *President*, Brooks McNamara, Graduate Drama Department, School of the Arts, New York University, Room 300, 61 West 4th Street, New York, N. Y. 10012; *Vice-President*, Louis A. Rachow, The Walter Hampden-Edwin Booth Theatre Collection and Library, The Players, 16 Gramercy Park, New York, N. Y. 10003; *Secretary-Treasurer*, Richard M. Buck, Assistant to the Chief, Performing Arts Research Center, The New York Public Library at Lincoln Center, 111 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10023; *Recording Secretary*, Paul R. Palmer, 560 Riverside Drive, Apt. 21B, New York, N. Y. 10027.

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