

Ohio University Division of Theatre – Professional Director Training Program
PDTP Reading List, Part Three
Books and Periodicals Every Director Should Know

Directors: if you aren't already familiar with these titles, get to know them. They are the core literature of your chosen discipline, and many of them will be referred to on a regular basis in the classes you'll be taking. Keep in mind that this is *the short list*, chosen from among the thousands of available books on directing, acting, and the theatre. So, if anything, this should merely be the beginning of a lifetime of study.

Books

Directing (13)

- A Sense of Direction*. William Ball, Drama Book Publishers, 1984
The Director's Voice: Twenty-One Interviews. Arthur Bartow, TCG, 1988
A Director Prepares: Seven Essays on Art in Theatre. Anne Bogart, Routledge, 2001.
Thinking Like a Director. Michael Bloom, Faber & Faber, 2001
On Directing. Harold Clurman, Macmillan, 1972
Notes on Directing. Frank Hauser & Russell Reich, RCR Creative, 2003
Tips: Ideas for Directors. Jon Jory, Smith & Kraus, 2002
The Great Stage Directors: 100 Distinguished Careers of the Theater. Samuel L. Leiter, Facts on File, 1994.
Creating Life On Stage: A Director's Approach to Working with Actors. Marshall W. Mason, Heinemann, 2006.
Subsequent Performances. Jonathan Miller, Viking, 1986.
The Director's Companion. Mel Shapiro, Harcourt Brace, 1998.
Stage Director's Handbook: Opportunities for Directors and Choreographers. Sarah Hart, ed., TCG, 2006.
Directing Plays: A Working Professional's Method. Stuart Vaughan, Longman, 1993.

Acting (14)

- The Art of Acting*. Stella Adler (ed. Howard Kissel), Applause, 2000.
Stella Adler on Ibsen, Strindberg and Chekhov. Stella Adler (ed. Barry Paris), Vintage, 2000.
Training of the American Actor. Arthur Bartow, ed., TCG, 2006.
Actions: The Actor's Thesaurus. Marina Caldarone, Maggie Lloyd-Williams, Drama Publishers, 2004.
The Actor and the Target. Declan Donnellan, TCG, 2002.
The Actor's Art and Craft: William Esper Teaches the Meisner Technique. William Esper & Damon Dimarco, Anchor, 2008.
How to Stop Acting. Harold Guskin, Faber & Faber, 2003.
A Challenge for the Actor. Uta Hagen, 1991.
Respect for Acting. Uta Hagen and Haskel Frankel, Wiley, 1973
Sanford Meisner on Acting. Sanford Meisner & Dennis Longwell, Vintage, 1987.
The Intent to Live: Achieving Your True Potential as an Actor. Larry Moss, Bantam, 2004.
An Actor's Work. Konstantin Stanislavski, tr. Jean Benedetti, Routledge, 2008.
Creating a Role. Constantin Stanislavski, tr. Elizabeth Reynolds Hapgood, 1961.

My Life in Art. Constantin Stanislavski, tr. J.J. Robbins, 1924.

Shakespeare (Acting & Directing) (11)

Asimov's Guide to Shakespeare. Isaac Asimov, Avenel, 1970.

Playing Shakespeare, John Barton, Methuen, 1984.

Will Power: How to Act Shakespeare in 21 Days. John Basil and Stephanie Gunning, Applause, 2006.

On Directing Shakespeare: Interviews with Contemporary Directors. Ralph Berry, Hamish Hamilton, 1989.

The Reader's Encyclopedia of Shakespeare. Oscar James Campbell and Edward G. Quinn, eds., Crowell, 1966.

The Oxford Companion to Shakespeare. Michael Dobson and Stanley Wells, eds., Oxford University Press, 2001.

Thinking Shakespeare. Barry Edelstein, Spark Publishing, 2007.

Prefaces to Shakespeare. Harley Granville-Barker, Princeton Univ. Press, 1947.

The Riverside Shakespeare, 2nd edition. G. Blakemore Evans, ed., Riverside, 1997.

Speaking Shakespeare. Patsy Rodenburg, Palgrave Macmillan, 2004.

Shakespeare Lexicon and Quotation Dictionary in 2 Volumes. Alexander Schmidt, Dover reprint, 1971.

Miscellaneous Theory (7)

The Theatre and Its Double. Antonin Artaud, tr. Mary C. Richard, Grove, 1958.

The Empty Space. Peter Brook, Atheneum, 1968.

Theatre of the Absurd. Martin Esslin, Heinemann, 2004 (3rd edition).

Towards a Poor Theatre. Jerzy Grotowski, Simon & Schuster, 1969.

Shakespeare Our Contemporary. Jan Kott, tr. B. Taboriski, Doubleday, 1966.

Breaking the Rules: The Wooster Group. David Savran, TCG, 1986.

Improvisation for the Theatre. Viola Spolin, Northwestern Univ. Press, 1963.

Periodicals (3)

American Theatre magazine (monthly).

The New Yorker (weekly, particularly the theatre & related arts reviews).

The New York Times (daily, but Friday and Sunday editions in particular).