THEATRE AND DRAMA PREMIUM has everything students and scholars need to study the dramatic arts from the page to the stage and behind the curtain. The collection features drama texts from diverse playwrights, high definition performance videos, documentaries, interviews, audio plays, contextual reference material, and production design archival content.

The package covers all areas of study, from the stage to behind-the-scenes, and provides the tools and content faculty and students need to discover, teach, and interpret all aspects of performance, including:

- **13,000+ full-text plays**, many published for the first time, from canonical and emerging playwrights
- **150,000 pages** of original and contextualizing materials including designs, reference material, and ephemera
- **300 audio plays** from L.A. Theatre Works
- **950+ hours** of filmed stage performances, documentaries, and video training materials
Students and scholars can conduct in-depth analyses on key writers, creators, and performers, and create a new understanding of established pieces of the dramatic canon. For example:

- Using the Bell’s 1623 Edition of the text for comparison, students can examine multiple video productions of *King Lear*, focusing on King Lear’s speech in Act 3, Scene 2, and begin to understand how acting and directing choices can affect an overall performance.

- Faculty can widen the lens of theatrical study to include a diverse cast of pioneers such as designs from Shirley Prendergast, the first black female lighting designer on Broadway in 1973, or plays by R. Lynn Riggs, the first American Indian playwright to have his works produced.

- All patrons can relish premier performances such as the UK’s National Theatre’s productions of *Small Island* (2019), *Les Blancs* (2016), and *Frankenstein* (2011) virtually.

- In exploring Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, students can read the original First Folio version, compare it to modernizing translations (Augustin Daly) and adaptations (Frances Elizabeth Clarke) for textual variations, or become immersed in filmed stage versions by acclaimed directors Julie Taymor and Beverly Bullock.

Theatre and Drama Premium captures the depth and diversity of drama in all of its forms, from the stage to the screen. Theatre and Drama Premium fills an important gap in scholarship by delivering not only the best-known names in drama, but also works by and about often overlooked groups, including African Americans, women, and a range of world cultures. In addition to cornerstone text-based resources, this package provides curated video and audio dramatic performances that give students and scholars a rounded view of this powerful art form.
Drama Texts Collection

Covering the most prodigious dramatic literature in English from the late 13th-century to the beginning of the 21st century, this collection includes 7,000+ essential, full-text plays from more than 400 playwrights. Nearly 30 percent of this collection includes rare or previously unpublished content, and many of these items are drawn from the private collections of the playwrights themselves and can be found nowhere else. This collection is curated with assistance from an advisory board of respected scholars in the field. Previously unpublished portions have evolved under the direction of the living playwrights themselves. Drama Texts Collection includes:

- American Drama 1714-1915
- Asian American Drama
- Black Drama, Third Edition
- Contemporary World Drama
- English Drama
- Latin American Drama
- North American Indian Drama, Second Edition
- North American Women’s Drama, Second Edition
- Twentieth Century Drama
- Twentieth Century North American Drama, Second Edition

Drama Texts Collection: Contemporary World Drama

Explore the richness and diversity of contemporary theatre and drama with this collection of new work from established and up-and-coming contemporary playwrights from around the world, including recently produced world premieres and previously unpublished works from every continent. At completion, the collection will include 1,000 contemporary plays, from the year 2000 to present-day. Featured playwrights include Hassan Abdulrazzak (Iraq), Reza de Wet (South Africa), Ramón Griffero (Chile), Vilsoni Hereniko (Fiji), and Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti (United Kingdom), to name a few.

Drama Texts Collection: Black Drama: Third Edition

Black Drama: Third Edition contains the full text of more than 1,700 plays written from the mid-1800s to the present by more than 200 playwrights from North America, English-speaking Africa, the Caribbean, and other countries of the African diaspora. Many of the works are rare, hard to find, or out of print. James Vernon Hatch, the playwright, historian, and curator of the landmark Hatch-Billops Collection, is the project’s foundational editorial advisor. More than 40 percent of the collection consists of previously unpublished plays by writers such as Langston Hughes, Dominique Morriseau, Ed Bullins, Willis Richardson, Toni Morrison, Amiri Baraka, Randolph Edmonds, Zora Neale Hurston, and many others. The result is an exceptionally deep and unified collection that illustrates the many purposes that black theater has served: to give testimony to the ancient foundations of black culture; to protest injustices; and to give voice to the many and varied expressions of black creativity.

Black Lives, Black Words, selected and edited by Reginald Edmund, Oberon Books, 2017


Amazônia from Oberon Books
Theatre Performance & Design Collection

While the texts of plays can serve as lasting documents, productions are ephemeral. The collaborative elements of theatre in performance – the work of the actors, directors, and designers – have tremendous scholarly and educational value long after a production closes. Now, faculty and scholars will be able to revisit great performances again and again, while learning from masters and professionals as they discuss their crafts.

Theatre Performance & Design Collection features:

- **Performances**: No need to travel to New York or London to see high-quality performances. Expose your students to professional productions.
- **Design**: Experience all aspects of design from the 17th century through the present including scenic, set, lighting, sound, costume, makeup, and more.
- **Documentaries**: Go in-depth into the study and craft of performance through documentaries that offer insight and context.
- **Instructional materials and training videos**: Learn about the blending of art and technology from practicing professionals.
- **Master classes**: Learn from the masters of playwrighting, production, and directing (featuring experts like Lynn Nottage, Lin Manuel-Miranda, and Woodie James, Jr.) without the expense of a master class.
- **Audio plays**: Access hundreds of important dramatic works like Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible* or Caryl Churchill’s *Top Girls* in streaming audio from the curated archive of the nation’s premiere radio theatre company, L.A. Theatre Works.

Theatre Performance & Design Collection contains the full contents of the following collections:

- Audio Drama: *The LA Theatre Works Collection*
- BBC Literary Adaptations in Video
- National Theatre Collection: Volume I
- National Theatre Collection: Volume II
- Performance Design Archive Online
- The Royal Shakespeare Company Collection
- Theatre in Context Collection
- Theatre in Video: Volume I
- Theatre in Video: Volume II

*Royal Shakespeare Company’s production of The Tempest, 2011*

*Set Design, The Tempest, 1821 in Grieve Family Collection of Theatre Designs, of University of London, Senate House Library*

*The Cherry Orchard, audio drama, L.A. Theatre Works, 2011*

*The School for Scandal, audio drama, L.A. Theatre Works, 2011*
Theatre students and researchers can now see behind the scenes of the world’s greatest dramatic performances. Performance Design Archive Online is the first comprehensive, international collection that covers all aspects of theater production design, from the 17th century through to the present day – including scenic and set design, lighting design, sound design, costume design, makeup and more. Dramatic interpretation goes beyond the page, and Performance Design Archive Online allows its users to get a glimpse into a designer’s perspective and understand the level of collaboration necessary between the artistic and directing teams to mount a successful production.

Theatre Performance & Design Collection: The Royal Shakespeare Company Collection

Access high-definition, surround-sound recordings of William Shakespeare’s plays featuring the world’s best Shakespearean actors, like David Tennant, Sir Anthony Sher, Paapa Essiedu, and Simon Russell-Beale, and directors like Robin Lough and Dewi Humphrey. The Royal Shakespeare Company Collection brings The Tempest, King Lear, Hamlet and other famous performances filmed at the Royal Shakespeare Company’s Stratford-upon-Avon theater to classrooms around the world. Each production is accompanied by creative interviews, production images, teacher packs, and study notes to enhance student understanding of these important plays. Seventeen performances are currently available, with more content to be added in the future.

Theatre Performance & Design Collection: BBC Literary Adaptations in Video

This collection of nearly 200 hours comprises a treasure trove of BBC productions of more than 50 famous literary works, many that were buried in the BBC archive for the past few decades. From Dickens to Shakespeare, from Chekhov to Arthur Miller, from Jane Austen to Mary Shelley, a great breadth of works is included. Talent like Mark Rylance, Yoko Ono, John Gielgud, Sir Ian McKellen, Colin Firth, and more make this product a must-have for theatre, drama, performing arts, and literature courses. In addition to actual performances, the product includes titles like Face to Face and Performance where actors and directors discuss their craft.

Theatre Performance & Design Collection: National Theatre Collection: Volume I

Students can virtually experience world-class productions and archival materials from the UK’s National Theatre through these exciting collections which transform the landscape of theatre and performance studies around the globe. Drawing on 10 years of National Theatre Live broadcasts as well as recordings never previously seen outside of the National Theatre’s archive, the video content includes 50 high definition streaming videos with compelling performances from A-list talent and modern interpretations of dramatic classics. As a supplement to the filmed productions, exclusive digitized archival materials such as costume bibles, prompt scripts, and costume designs provide behind-the-scenes background and contextual information.
Theatre Performance & Design Collection: Theatre in Context Collection

Experience the history of the theatre through 40,000 pages of monumental reference works, encyclopedias, images, flyers, playbills, postcards, scrapbooks, and other resources that offer a glimpse into the productions of the past. Theatre in Context Collection helps students of theatre, literature, and history draw connections between the people who brought key productions and dramatic stories to life – from the directors to the design teams. With Theatre in Context Collection, students can understand the historical significance of certain plays, their popularity, and their role in shaping dialogue outside of the world of theatre.

The collection includes:

- **Essential reference works**, such as O’Dell’s *Annals of the New York Stage*, catalogue historic performances from the Broadway stage
- **Archival playbills** that document the major players of the day from the 1960s to the 1990s
- **Articles and periodicals** that provide contemporary reactions to performances from as early as 1885

TOOLS FOR LEARNING AND SCHOLARSHIP

The Alexander Street platform offers students and faculty a unique opportunity to engage with materials in new and exciting ways, and gives librarians a better view into what users are doing on the platform.

**USERS CAN:**

- Watch synchronized, searchable transcripts running alongside almost all titles (JAWS compatible).
- Search and browse by title, performer, playwright, designer, play/work, character/role, production company, and other discipline-specific terms.
- Watch videos on-the-go with any mobile device.
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Theatre and Drama Premium

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