# AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH CALL FOR PAPERS

Annual Meeting Washington, DC 20–22 November 1998

## PLAYING BY THE RULES: THEATRICAL REGIMES, REGIMENS, AND REGULATIONS

From the censure of Phrynichus to the NEA controversy over performance artists; from the Concordia Regularis to Goethe's "Rules for Actors" to the Actors' Equity Association rulebook; from the Theatrical Syndicate to the Cartel to the corporate body of Andrew Lloyd Webber; from Lord Chamberlain to the French Academy to the Cultural Revolution; from Delsarte to Stanislavski to Suzuki; from the excommunication of actors to the harrowing of the Living Theatre; from the "three unities" to the well-made play to Brecht's Lehrstücke; from fire and zoning laws to copyright; from Hamlet's advice to the players to Beckett's and August Wilson's admonitions to producers—the theatre has generated and resisted regularization.

Conference papers are invited on the theme of "rules" for the theatreinterpreted in a broad sense and explicitly *not* restricted to the subject matters above. We are interested in theatrical self-regulation as much as external control, in restraint as much as constraint, in aesthetic rules as much as civil ones, in theatrical modalities that appear to regiment an era as much as the moments at which they transform. we are also interested in how rules are situated vis à vis social, moral, and economic imperatives.

Essays must be received by 1 April 1998.

Please submit papers or detailed proposals (2–3 pages) to: Attilio Favorini, Department of Theatre Arts, 1617 CL, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

The Program Committee

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## **CALL FOR PAPERS EXTENDED**

## **PERFORMANCE: MODERN AND POSTMODERN**

For a special issue (or issues), *Theatre Survey* invites essays considering how twentieth-century performances, modern and postmodern, have put the "classics" into play, essays that theorize and clarify modern and/or postmodern theatrical practices. We take "classic" to embrace the familiar landmarks of the Western canon, from the Greeks through Beckett, Brecht, and beyond—and of the Eastern canon, as well as intercultural intersections between. Essays should engage specific productions directly but in ways that move beyond performance reconstruction to theorize and clarify the underlying forces of cultural production;essays should bring performances into dialoguewith broader cultural and historical concerns.

Among the many questions that might be addressed: What is the place of "text" in modernist or postmodernist performance practice? What claims did modernist production make? What is the cultural (ideological, political) "work" of modernist or postmodernist "classics" in production? Who controls such production of the "classics?" What are the characteristics of the language of modernist scene design? How does the postmodern scenic vocabulary differ? What are the politics, the aesthetics of the Western postmodern appropriation of Eastern theatre practices?

Essays must be received by 19 December 1997. Submit three copies, prepared according to the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 14th Edition, to either of the editors for this project:

> Gary Jay Williams, Editor, *Theatre Survey* Department of Drama, Catholic University of America Washington, D.C. 20064

William Worthen Department of Dramatic Art University of California-Davis Davis, CA 95616

### THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THEATRE RESEARCH

The American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) was founded in 1956 to encourage theatre scholarship and to provide a link with other similar groups represented in the International Federation for Theatre Research (IFTR/FIRT). ASTR is the only American theatre organization affiliated with the American Council of Learned Societies and the International Federation for Theatre Research. In 1967 ASTR was incorporated under the laws of New Jersey as a nonprofit corporation. In informal correspondence, the society is referred to as "ASTR."

Theatre Survey, the official journal of ASTR, is published bianually, in May and in November. The ASTR annual meeting occurs in the fall of each year. Inquiries about ASTR, including membership, should be sent to

> ASTR Records Department of Theatre Box 1897 Brown University Providence, RI 02912

ASTR membership includes a subscription to *Theatre Survey*. ASTR annual dues are \$45 for North American institutions and individuals, \$50 for non-North American institutions and individuals, \$25 for students, and \$30 for retirees.

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