

# THE THEATRE ILLUSTRATED

## Scene Design in the American Theatre

From 1915 to 1960

by *Orville K. Larson*

A new stagecraft movement began in Europe just prior to World War I, reaching the United States with the appearance of Robert Edmond Jones. Almost single-handedly, Jones turned stage decoration into a new art which became more than mere scene painting. Richly illustrated, *Scene Design in the American Theatre* chronicles this important transformation between 1915 and 1960. The American scene designers who emerged from the new stagecraft movement were of a different breed from their European counterparts and were among the most articulate artists in the American theatre. Orville K. Larson has spent sixty years as a devoted student and critic of American scene design, witnessing first-hand many of the productions discussed in this ground-breaking study. This book is an invaluable guide to theatre designers and indeed anyone interested in the theatre and its history.

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