Plays and Dramatic Criticism

For the most updated resources please refer to the Research Guides:
guides.lib.cua.edu/theater
guides.lib.cua.edu/shakespeareperf

Plays are listed in the SearchBox by author, title, and subject. Plays are sometimes compiled into anthologies. Searches for plays can be narrowed by terms such as “one-act,” “monologues,” etc. Individual plays in anthologies will not always be in the catalog so a researcher will need to use reference resources such as Chicorel and the Play Index.

Guides

Internet Broadway Database
Provides records of productions from the beginnings of New York theater until today.
www.IBDB.com

Doolee
Extensive database of modern playwrights and plays written in or translated into English since in 1956. Includes c. 30,000 playwrights and 100,000 plays, with access points by author, title, and number of male & female roles. www.doollee.com

Inter-Play: an On-line Index to Plays in Collections, Anthologies, and Periodicals.
Contains more than 18,000 entries for plays searchable by author and/or title. Cites PSU call numbers of sources for the texts of plays. library.pdx.edu/interplay

The London stage, 1660-1800; a calendar of plays, entertainments & afterpieces, together with casts, box-receipts and contemporary comment. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1960-68. Basic reference for 18th century theater compiled from newspapers, playbills, and contemporary theatrical diaries. PN 2592 .L84

Full-Text Sources

American Variety Stage.
Multimedia anthology from Library of Congress holdings illustrating popular entertainment, 1870-1920. Includes scripts, playbills, motion pictures, recordings.
memory.loc.gov/ammem/vshtml/vshome.html

Updated: September 24, 2018
Early English Books Online (EEBO).
Early English Books Online (EEBO) contains digital facsimile page images of virtually every work printed in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and British North America and works in English printed elsewhere from 1473-1700. Search in library Databases

Eighteenth Century Collection Online (ECCO).
Use Eighteenth Century Collections Online to access the digital images of every page of books published during the 18th Century. With full-text searching of millions of pages, the product allows researchers new methods of access to critical information in the fields of history, literature, religion, law, fine arts, science and more. Search in library Databases

British Literary Manuscripts Online.
British Literary Manuscripts Online, 1120-1900 is an extensive digital archive of manuscripts covering poems, plays, essays, novels, diaries, journals, correspondence, stories, chronicles, religious writings, and other works. Search in library Databases

Drama Online
*Drama Online* is the award-winning online resource that offers a vast array of full-text plays complete with scholarly notes, annotated texts, critical analysis and contextual information. Access covers the earliest days of Greek drama to the present day, epics, monologues, new authors and the great playwrights. The resources are searchable by full-text or through a myriad of filters including content type, genre, period, author, setting and theme. Drama Online includes over 500 images from the Victoria and Albert Museum's rich archive of production photos. Search in library Databases

**Criticism and Reviews**


**Other Critical Reviews of Theater Production Resources**
- World Shakespeare Bibliography
- Historical Newspapers (*NY Times, Washington Post, Times of London*)
- MLA International Bibliography (play name + “theater production” as subject)
- Humanities International Complete

Updated: September 24, 2018
Production Histories

Internet Broadway Database (IBDB).

American Theatre Companies (Print book series)
Provides history of the company and includes listing of productions for each season. Each entry has a bibliography for further research. Use the title index to determine which companies performed particular plays.

Lists first production, runs of significant productions, and important revivals. Summarizes the published criticism of the productions. Also includes biographical information, assessment of the playwrights’ career, archival sources, and bibliographies of primary and secondary sources. This is a shared EBSCO e-Book. Also available in print. PR 736.B76 1996

The London Stage, 1660-1800:
A calendar of plays, entertainments & afterpieces, together with casts, box-receipts and contemporary comment. PN 2592.L84

Journal Article Resources
- JSTOR Performing Arts
- Project Muse
- The New York Times and other newspapers
- MLA International Bibliography

Other Resource Locations
- Biographies of the playwright
- Critical editions of the play
- Websites on the playwright or the play
- Stage histories of particular plays or playwrights
- Individual theater companies

For Research Consultations: Kevin Gunn
Coordinator of Digital Scholarship
Liaison Librarian for Drama and Media Studies
314B Mullen Library
(202) 319-5504
gunn@cua.edu

Quick Research questions: General Reference Desk
1st Floor Mullen Library
(202) 319-5070

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