



# A History of African American Theatre (Cambridge Studies in American Theatre and Drama)

*By Errol G. Hill, James V. Hatch*

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This definitive history of African-American theatre embraces companies from across the U.S., as well as the anglophone Caribbean and African-American companies touring Europe, Australia and Africa. Representing a catholicity of styles, from African ritual to European forms, amateur to professional, and political nationalism to integration, the volume covers all aspects of performance. It includes minstrel, vaudeville, and cabaret acts, as well as shows written by whites that used black casts.

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"Though many mourn the recent loss of Errol Hill, he and Hatch leave a lasting legacy with this valuable and comprehensive history.... Both Hill and Hatch have already been instrumental in providing extensive scholarship and criticism of African American theater and drama, and this volume broadens that investigation.... The book clarifies the reality that African American contributions to theater can no longer be ignored or relegated to 'token paragraphs.' Essential." Choice

"Impressive in scope, this magisterial history of the hardships and achievements of black creators of theatre in America takes the reader from the early-1400s origins of the African slave trade to events-in-progress at certain theatres in the spring of 2001, includes theatrical forms like minstrelsy and vaudeville, and looks at African American theatre in cities all across the United States as well as in the Caribbean. [...] surely takes its place as our definitive work on the subject. Theatre History Studies HB ISBN (2003) 0-521-62443-6

#### **About the Author**

Professor Emeritus, Theatre Department, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire.

Professor Emeritus in the Graduate Theatre Program at the City University of New York.

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