



Performance: A Critical Introduction

By Marvin Carlson

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This comprehensively revised, illustrated edition discusses recent performance work and takes into consideration changes that have taken place since the book's original publication in 1996. Marvin Carlson guides the reader through the contested definition of performance as a theatrical activity and the myriad ways in which performance has been interpreted by ethnographers, anthropologists, linguists, and cultural theorists. Topics covered include:

- *the evolution of performance art since the 1960s
- *the relationship between performance, postmodernism, the politics of identity, and current cultural studies
- *the recent theoretical developments in the study of performance in the fields of anthropology, psychoanalysis, linguistics, and technology.

With a fully updated bibliography and additional glossary of terms, students of performance studies, visual and performing arts or theatre history will welcome this new version of a classic text.

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Review

"This is vintage Carlson - erudite, concise, precise and engaging.."

-Maria Shevstova, "Theatre Quarterly

About the Author

Marvin Carlson is the Sidney E. Cohn Professor of Theatre and Comparative Literature at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He has received the ATHE Career Achievement Award, the George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism, the Calloway Prize and the ASTR Distinguished Scholarship Award. He has published widely in theatre history and theory, performance studies and dramatic literature.

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