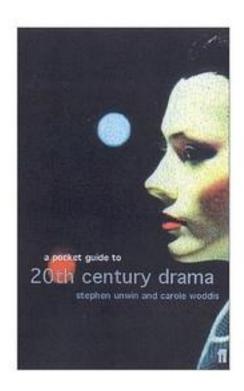
A Pocket Guide to 20th Century Drama



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A concise guide to fifty of the most significant plays of the past century.

If great drama flourishes in a changing world, the twentieth century may prove itself the most dramatically fruitful ever. The briefest historical outline shows a time of extraordinary upheaval, and twentieth-century drama's greatest achievement was that it managed to reflect those changes with courage, vision, and artistry.

In A Pocket Guide to 20th Century Drama, Stephen Unwin and Carole Woddis examine fifty seminal works from the past one hundred years, and in the process chart some of

the most profound events of that era -- from Anton Chekhov's illustration of the fin-de-siècle clash in cultural value systems in The Cherry Orchard to World War II's legacy of moral despair as voiced in Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot to Tony Kushner's stark and moving exploration of the ravages of AIDS in Angels in America.

For each play, a précis is provided, along with a brief essay on its historical and literary context and a rundown of pertinent productions. In addition, the authors provide both an overview of the past century in history and drama, and a chronicle of one thousand of the century's notable plays, providing an understanding of what other works were being written at the time.

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