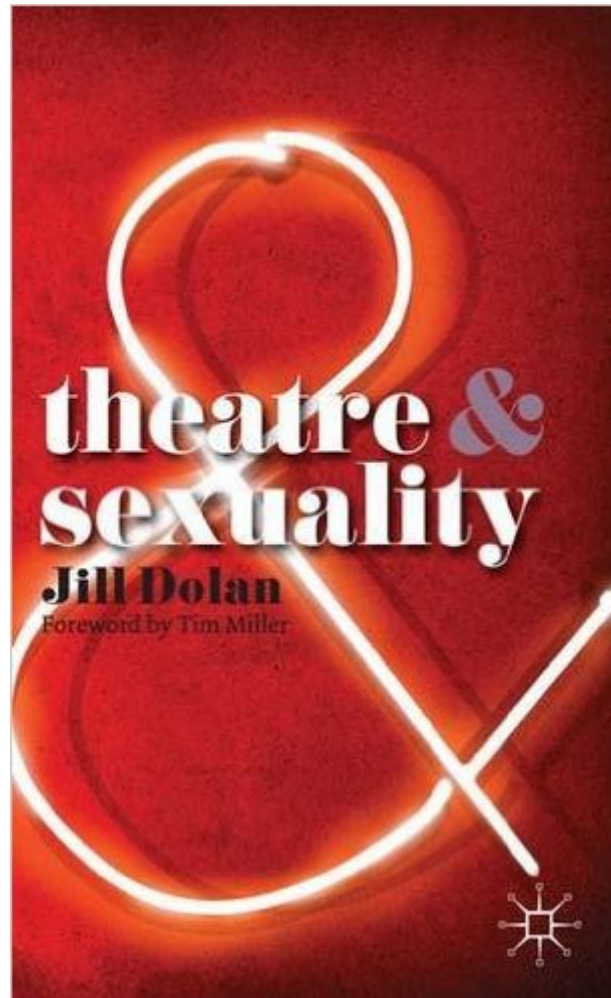


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# Theatre And Sexuality



## Synopsis

Why is it useful to look at theatre and performance through the lens of sexual identity? How has commercial theatre embraced gay and lesbian work? *Theatre and Sexuality* introduces critical methods and artistic practices that link drama, theatre and performance with minority sexualities in both the U.S. and UK. It narrates a select history of LGBTQ theatre from the early 20th century through today. Including an extended reading of Split Britches/Bloodlips' production *Belle Reprieve*, the book offers clear analysis, as well as a celebration, of LGBTQ performance.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Jill Dolan theorizes on the audience's response to witnessing displays of sexuality on stage and explores the formation of queer sex, desire and love in the theater. The author starts by challenging mainstream expectations when seeing a play; that is, by questioning the position that many have of understanding heterosexuality as normal. She focuses on the strategies that queer productions have focusing on the idea of the political agenda that shapes plot or staging, which in turn implies mindful decisions on the part of everyone involved in a dramatic event: playwright, director, actors and crew. Such synergy, then, makes the staging of queer drama a collaborative effort, much in tune with the cooperative participation and inclusive nature of other gay rights enterprises. Dolan traces a brief history of gay drama and the different changes in attitudes throughout the 20th century. For example, she recognizes that the search for a positive gay and lesbian identity is a new

phenomenon. In turn, she recognizes the danger of assimilation in LGBT drama as this form of conformity may imply abandoning the political fight by staying within the boundaries set by heteronormativity: gay productions that adopt a traditional theatrical format encase behind the fourth wall roles that replicates (even with gay and lesbian characters) mainstream forms of behavior.

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