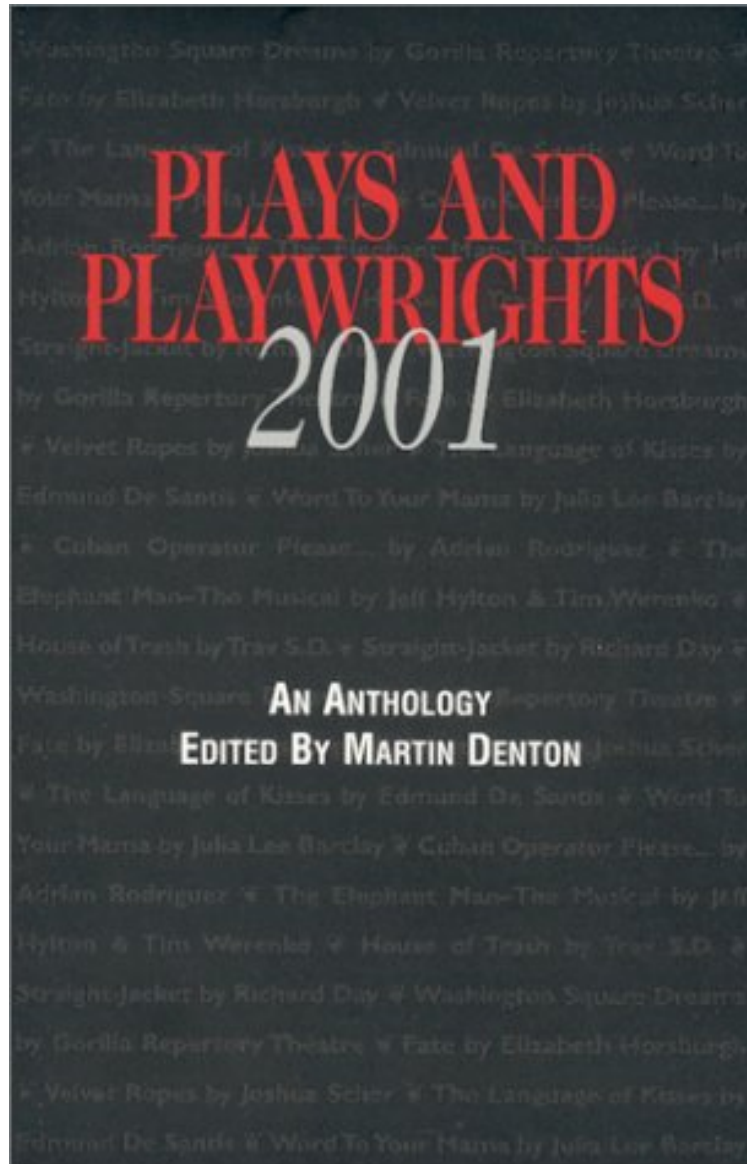


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Plays and Playwrights 2001

Martin Denton

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Martin Denton : Plays and Playwrights 2001 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Plays and Playwrights 2001:

10 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Quite WonderfulBy Beverly S. WilleyMartin Denton has done it again! As a topnotch theatre reviewer, Mr. Denton has thoroughly scoured the New York City theatre scene and has assembled yet another marvelous anthology of the most outstanding new off- and off-off-Broadway plays of the

season. There are nine distinctly different works presented in this one volume, and I can honestly say, every one is terrific. These are plays that will touch your heart, and tickle your funny-bone. "Cuban Operator Please" is a heart wrenching story of a young Cuban-American man's unresolved relationship with his father, while in "The Language of Kisses," an estranged mother and daughter uncover their past and rediscover each other. "The Language of Kisses," by the way, is one of the most moving, stunning plays I've read in a long time. It's a story which will stay with you and haunt you long after you've finished the book -- this work alone is well worth the price of the entire anthology! Then there are the plays which will make you laugh. "Velvet Ropes" is a laugh-out-loud theatrical delight where two naive souls, trapped in a museum, try to make sense of the artwork; "The Elephant Man - The Musical" (AKA, Pakky Derm, Superstar) is a very funny story of John Merrick's big break on Broadway; "House of Trash" is an uproarious piece with Preacher Bob Maggot, a garbageman moonlighting as a Baptist preacher, trying to hold his wayward family together; "Straight Jacket" is a hilarious satire of one of Hollywood's leading men (Rock Hudson perhaps?), who falls in love with his screenwriter. "Word To Your Mama" is an awesome stream-of-consciousness journey through the past decade -- it will take your breath away. And, finally the fast paced "Fate" and the eight whimsical short plays that make up "Washington Square Dreams" are delightful. To top it all off, Mr. Denton's Introduction includes a most brilliant critical essay on each of the plays. **PLAYS AND PLAYWRIGHTS 2001** is really quite wonderful! Buy it. Read it. You'll be glad you did. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Denton again finds the very best !! By Judy G. Hylton Having just finished my pre-view copy of Martin Denton's newest anthology of the up-and-coming playwrights of this new century, I am, in a word, impressed. Not just with the obvious talent and re-assurance that theatre is alive and well and will continue to be so in the future, but with the ability of Denton to seek out and discover the best of the best. I often go to NY for theatre week-ends and enjoy seeing the "off-off" Broadway as well as the "on". Denton is certainly the best source I have found for "what to see and why". I applaud his continuing to "get the word out" about all this fabulous young talent. The only play in this current anthology I have seen is "The Elephant Man, the musical", by the multi-talented team of Jeff Hylton and Tim Werenko, and I must say Denton's comments and reviews are "right-on". I too, am "hooked" and a "Jeff Hylton fan", and throughly agree, "the world needs more Jeff Hyltons and Tim Werenkos", and I would feel this was even if I were not Jeff's mother. Reading the other great selections and Denton's reviews make me want to see them all. Thanks Martin Denton...Keep up the good work!!!

Anthology of new works from the New York theatre, all of which premiered during 2000. Includes: "Washington Square Dreams" by Gorilla Repertory Theatre, "Fate" by Elizabeth Horsburgh, "Velvet Ropes" by Joshua Scher, "The Language of Kisses" by Edmund DeSantis, "Word To Your Mama" by Julia Lee Barclay, "Cuban Operator Please..." by Adrian Rodriguez, "The Elephant Man -- The Musical" by Jeff Hylton Tim Werenko, "House of Trash" by Trav S.D., and "Straight-Jacket" by Richard Day. With an Introduction by Martin Denton and a Preface by Robert Simonson.

(The plays) can all be staged perfectly in the vivid imaginations of readers hungry for a new literary/theater experience. -- Waterbury Republican-American, October 14, 2001 If you simply want to be current on what is new in theater, this book is excellent. -- Greenville Community News, June 26, 2001 From the Publisher From the Preface by Robert Simonson, editor of Playbill on Line: "Martin Denton is putting new comedies and dramas out where directors, producers, artistic directors, and theatergoers can find them. More than that, he is reinvesting the long moribund world of play publishing with vision and enthusiasm. New plays, it seems are new once more." About the Author Martin Denton is the Executive Director of The New York Theatre Experience, Inc., a nonprofit corporation whose mission is to spread the word about the New York theatre scene. He is the editor and chief theatre reviewer for their website, nytheatre.com. He is also the editor of "Plays and Playwrights for the New Millennium".