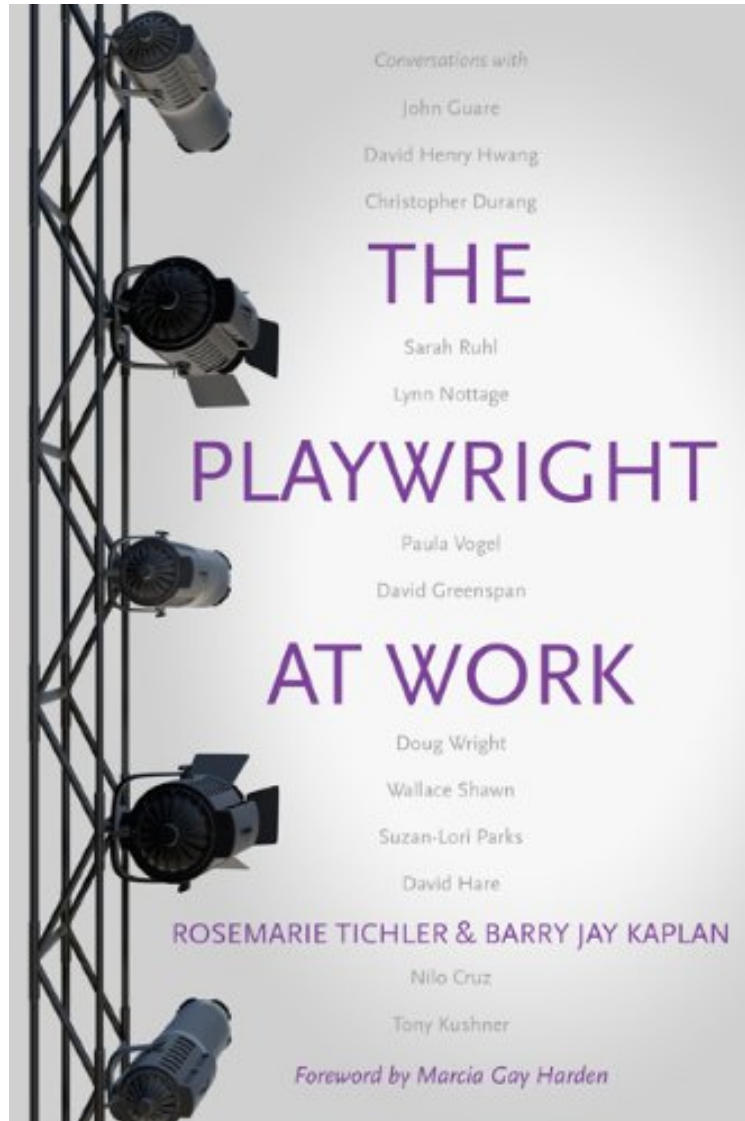


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The Playwright at Work: Conversations

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inspirations, and their fears -- and, collectively, these interviews will buoy even the most fragile of egos. It's smartly edited, diverse, and engaging.

Rosemarie Tichler and Barry Jay Kaplan take us behind the scenes in conversations with thirteen of today's most distinguished playwrights, including Tony Kushner, John Guare, Wallace Shawn, Suzan-Lori Parks, David Henry Hwang, and Sarah Ruhl. To familiarize the reader with the world of each playwright, Tichler and Kaplan introduce us to the environments in which the work happens, conducting their interviews in the playwrights' home, a dark theater, or a coffee shop. Topics of conversation range from the playwrights' earliest memories of the theater to finding their unique voices, and from their working relationships with directors, actors, and designers to their involvement in the purely commercial aspects of their profession. Taken together, these conversations constitute a collectively taught master class in the art and craft of writing for the stage.

About the Author Rosemarie Tichler was casting director and artistic producer at the Public Theater (New York). She teaches in New York University's Graduate Acting Program. She is the recipient of the Casting Society of America's Apple Award, the Villager Award for Excellence in Casting, and two Tony Award Producing nominations. Tichler founded the Public Theater's Shakespeare Lab, now in its sixteenth year. She is on the board of directors of New York's Classic Stage Company. She is the coauthor, with Barry Jay Kaplan, of *Actors at Work*. Barry Jay Kaplan's plays include *Landscape of Desire*. He is the recipient of the Joe Callaway Award and the Whitfield Cooke Best Play Award. He is also the author of the best-selling novels *Black Orchid* (with Nicholas Meyer) and *Biscayne*. His short stories have been nominated three times for the Pushcart Prize. He is the coauthor, with Rosemarie Tichler, of *Actors at Work*.