# Plays, People, Movements, Worlds of Performance

The world of theatre is a vast and multifaceted one, encompassing a wide range of plays, people, movements, and performance styles. Each of these elements plays an essential role in creating the unique and captivating experiences that theatre has to offer.

In this article, we will explore the interconnections between plays, people, movements, and worlds of performance. We will examine how these elements interact to create dynamic and meaningful theatrical experiences.



## A Sourcebook on African-American Performance: Plays, People, Movements (Worlds of Performance)

by Annemarie Bean

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### **Plays**

Plays are the foundation of theatre. They provide the framework for the action, the characters, and the themes that will be explored in performance.

Plays can be written in a variety of styles, from realistic to abstract, and can deal with any number of subjects, from the personal to the political.

The choice of play is a crucial one for any theatre company. The play should be appropriate for the company's resources and its artistic vision. It should also be a play that will resonate with the audience and provoke thought and discussion.

### **People**

The people involved in theatre are just as important as the plays themselves. These include the actors, directors, designers, and technicians who bring the play to life.

Actors are the heart and soul of theatre. They are responsible for embodying the characters in the play and bringing them to life for the audience. Actors must have a deep understanding of the play and its characters, as well as the ability to communicate their emotions and intentions through their performance.

Directors are responsible for overseeing the production of the play. They work with the actors, designers, and technicians to create a cohesive and visually appealing performance. Directors must have a strong understanding of theatre and its conventions, as well as the ability to motivate and inspire their team.

Designers are responsible for creating the look and feel of the play. They design the sets, costumes, and lighting that will be used in the performance. Designers must have a strong understanding of the play and

its themes, as well as the ability to create visually stunning and evocative designs.

Technicians are responsible for the technical aspects of the production. They operate the lights, sound, and special effects that are used in the performance. Technicians must have a strong understanding of theatre technology, as well as the ability to work quickly and efficiently.

#### Movements

Movements are the physical and emotional actions that actors use to bring their characters to life. Movements can be simple or complex, subtle or exaggerated. They can be used to express a wide range of emotions and ideas.

The choice of movement is a crucial one for actors. Movements should be appropriate for the character and the play, and they should be executed with precision and control. Actors must be able to use their bodies to communicate their characters' thoughts and feelings, as well as to create a sense of realism and believability.

#### **Worlds of Performance**

The world of performance is a vast and varied one. It encompasses a wide range of styles, from traditional to experimental. Each style of performance has its own unique conventions and techniques.

The choice of performance style is a crucial one for theatre companies. The style should be appropriate for the play and its audience. It should also be a style that the company is comfortable with and that it can execute effectively.

Plays, people, movements, and worlds of performance are all essential elements of theatre. These elements interact to create dynamic and meaningful theatrical experiences that can provoke thought, inspire creativity, and bring people together.

The next time you attend a theatre performance, take a moment to appreciate the many different elements that come together to create the experience. From the playwright who wrote the play to the actors who bring it to life, from the designers who create the look and feel of the production to the technicians who make it all run smoothly, each person involved in theatre plays a vital role in creating a memorable and moving experience.



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