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Available from TCG Books:
Great Moments in the Theatre by Benedict Nightingale



NEW YORK, NY – Theatre Communications Group (TCG) is pleased to announce the availability of ***Great Moments in the Theatre by Benedict Nightingale***, published by Oberon Books (London). Starting with the first performance of Aeschylus' *The Oresteia* in 458 BC and ending with the premiere of Jez Butterworth's *Jerusalem* in London of 2009 AD, former *New York Times* critic and chief theatre critic of the *Times* (London) for over 20 years, Benedict Nightingale collects in one volume what he extols as the greatest moments in theatre.

“Benedict Nightingale’s characteristically witty, insightful and enthusiastic reports make you wish you’d been sitting next to him during his 100 greatest moments in the theatre.”
— Sir Ian McKellan

Each informative and engaging entry is between 650 and 850 words in length and covers a remarkable diversity of theatrical openings and events — many of historical interest and significance — including a multitude witnessed by Nightingale himself during his fifty-year career in theatrical criticism. The plays and productions that Nightingale concisely and authoritatively brings alive range from Dustin Hoffman’s star-turn in *Death of a Salesman* to Macready’s *Macbeth* (1849) which induced over 20,000 people to riot in New York; from the boundary-breaking *A Raisin in the Sun* (1959) to Arthur Miller’s McCarthyite *The Crucible* (1953) and from Synge’s *Playboy of the Western World* (1907), which provoked serious riots in Dublin, to Lionel Bart’s *Twang!!* (1965), the notoriously disastrous musical.

Throughout the collection, Nightingale celebrates leading dramatists and performers, directors and composers, sharing the vast fulfillment and enjoyment he has experienced working within an art form he deeply loves.

“A magnificently readable tour of theatrical history conducted by our best-informed living critic.” — *Guardian* (London)

Benedict Nightingale is a British journalist and former chief theatre critic for the *Times* (London). He has also written for the *Guardian*, *New Statesman* and *New York Times*. His previous books include *Fifth Row Center: A Critic's Year on and off Broadway* (Times Books), a diary of the 1983-84 season on Broadway which he spent exclusively working as a reviewer for the *New York Times*.

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Oberon Books is one of the U.K.'s leading independent publishers specializing in drama and the performing arts. Oberon has a backlist of over 1,000 books including the latest modern plays and classics from some of the world's leading dramatists, as well as a wide range of handsomely produced publications covering the theatre, opera, dance, biography, performance studies, monologues, practical guides and fiction.

For over 50 years, **Theatre Communications Group (TCG)**, the national organization for the American theatre, has existed to strengthen, nurture and promote the professional not-for-profit American theatre. TCG's constituency has grown from a handful of groundbreaking theatres to nearly 700 member theatres and affiliate organizations and more than 12,000 individuals nationwide. TCG offers its members networking and knowledge-building opportunities through conferences, events, research and communications; awards grants, approximately \$2 million per year, to theatre companies and individual artists; advocates on the federal level; and serves as the U.S. Center of the International Theatre Institute, connecting its constituents to the global theatre community. TCG is North America's largest independent publisher of dramatic literature, with 11 Pulitzer Prizes for Best Play on the TCG booklist. It also publishes the award-winning AMERICAN THEATRE magazine and ARTSEARCH®, the essential source for a career in the arts. In all of its endeavors, TCG seeks to increase the organizational efficiency of its member theatres, cultivate and celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the field and promote a larger public understanding of, and appreciation for, the theatre. For more information visit www.tcg.org



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