

**New Approaches to Theatre Studies and Performance Analysis:  
Papers Presented at the Colston Symposium, Bristol, 21-23 March 1997**  
Ed. by Günter Berghaus

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This volume gathers 16 essays originally written for the occasion of the 49th Colston Symposium, held in Bristol in 1997, and substantially revised for this publication. They reflect on some of the key developments in the discipline of theatre studies over the past fifty years and combine this with a discussion of new trends and developments, especially in the fields of performance studies, reception analysis, interculturalism, sociocultural analysis, theatre anthropology, dance and movement analysis, computer-assisted reconstruction of performance venues, street theatre, guerilla theatre, ritual theatre, etc.

The 1997 Colston Symposium was held to celebrate fifty years of Theatre Studies in the United Kingdom. Following the lead of some continental-European universities, the discipline was first established in Britain at the University of Bristol and is now practised at some twenty-five British universities. Since 1947, geographic horizons have widened and Theatre Studies has become a university subject in the United States, Africa, Asia, the Pacific Rim and Latin-America. Many new departments have been founded, all of them contributing towards developing a methodology of the discipline. The 49th Colston Symposium was a welcome opportunity to take stock of some of the developments over the past half-century and to discuss many of the current (and possible future) approaches to Theatre Studies.

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