

The 2008-2009 Season is proudly presented by Star Tribune and Minnesota Monthly

Fences

By August Wilson
Directed by Lou Bellamy
Presented by Cargill

August 21 through September 21, 2008
Previews August 19 & 20

Fences: An Annotated Bibliography of Select Works

Bogumil, Mary. *Understanding August Wilson*. Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1999.

This piece covers six of Wilson's plays including *The Piano Lesson*. The book opens with a chapter on August Wilson as an African American playwright, discussing his life as well as what distinguishes his plays from those of other African American playwrights. Bogumil contextualizes Wilson's plays within societal factors, and has crafted a scholarly work that makes August Wilson's writing approachable and understandable to anyone from students to casual readers.

Elam, Harry Justin. *The Past as Present in the Drama of August Wilson*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2004.

Theater scholar and critic Harry J. Elam examines Wilson's published plays within the context of contemporary African American literature and in relation to the concepts of memory and history, culture and resistance, race and representation. Elam finds that each of Wilson's plays recaptures narratives lost, ignored, or avoided to create a new experience of the past that questions the historical categories of race and meanings of blackness.

Elkins, Marilyn. *August Wilson: A Casebook*. New York: Garland, 2000.

A comprehensive casebook that covers the political and cultural contexts of Wilson's plays; the conjunction of secular and spiritual traditions; Wilson's creative process; Wilson's collaboration with Lloyd Richards; the influence of Bearden, Baraka, Borges, and the blues upon Wilson's work; and an interview with the playwright.

Snodgrass, Mary Ellen. *August Wilson: A Literary Companion*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co, 2004.

Provides the reader with a source of basic data and analysis of characters, dates, events, allusions, staging strategies, and themes from the work on one of America's finest playwrights. The text opens with an annotated chronology of Wilson's life and works, followed by his family tree. Each of the 166 encyclopedic entries that make up the body of the work combines insights from a variety of sources along with generous citations; each concludes with a selected bibliography on relevant subjects. Charts elucidate the genealogies of Wilson's characters, the Charles, Hedley, and Maxon families, and account for weaknesses in Wilson's female characters. Two appendices complete the generously cross-referenced work: a timeline of events in Wilson's life and those of his characters, and a list of forty topics for projects, composition, and oral analysis.

Williams, Dana A. and Sandra G. Shannon, eds. *August Wilson and Black Aesthetics*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004.

August Wilson and Black Aesthetics offers new essays that address issues raised in Wilson's "The Ground on Which I Stand" speech. Essays and interviews range from examinations of the presence of Wilson's politics in his plays to the limitations of these politics on contemporary interpretations of Black aesthetics.

August Wilson's *Fences* - Sources for Further Reading

- Bennett, Lerone, Jr. *Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America*. 8th Ed. Chicago: Johnson Publishing Company, Inc., 2007.
- Bogumil, Mary. *Understanding August Wilson*. Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press, 1999.
- Carson, Clayborne, Emma J. Lapsansky-Werner, and Gary B. Nash. *The Struggle for Freedom: A History of African Americans*. New York: Pearson/Longman, 2007.
- Carroll, Brian. *When to Stop the Cheering? The Black Press, the Black Community, and the Integration of Professional Baseball*. New York: Routledge, 2007.
- Elam, Harry Justin. *The Past as Present in the Drama of August Wilson*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2004.
- Elkins, Marilyn. *August Wilson: A Casebook*. New York: Garland, 2000.
- Holway, John. *Voices from the Great Black Baseball Leagues*. New York: Da Capo Press, 1992.
- Nelson, Kadir. *We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball*. New York: Jump at the Sun/Hyperion Books for Children, 2008.
- Ross, Charles K. *Outside the Lines: African Americans and the Integration of the National Football League*. New York: New York University Press, 1999.
- Smith, Jessie Carney. *Black Firsts: 4,000 Groundbreaking and Pioneering Historical Events*. 2nd Ed. Detroit: Visible Ink Press, 2003.
- Snodgrass, Mary Ellen. *August Wilson: A Literary Companion*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co, 2004.
- Soyinka, Wole. *Myth, Literature and the African World*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1976.
- Sullivan, Dean A. Ed. *Late Innings: A Documentary History of Baseball, 1945-1972*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002.
- Williams, Dana A. and Sandra G. Shannon, eds. *August Wilson and Black Aesthetics*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004.