

Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Playbill for The Pajama Game

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THEATREGOERS' SCRAPBOOK

CATCHING KAZAN by Joan Alleman Rubin

[[image - photo of Elia Kazan]]

On December 6, Actors Studio, probably the world's most famous theatre workshop for professional actors, celebrated its 25th anniversary. It seemed a fitting occasion for the Studio and its artistic director Lee Strasberg to honor one of the founders Elia Kazan for his monumental contribution to the American stage and screen. Below a few highlights of Kazan's several careers - actor, director, novelist - and some quotes on how he's felt about them.

[[image - photo captioned "1935 - Kazan with Frances Farmer in Clifford Odets' GOLDEN BOY"]]

"I came to New York, a young guy who wanted to get into the theatre. At that time the profession of acting had no dignity unless you were a star. In 1947 we started Actor's Studio in order to change that. The philosophy of the Studio was and is that acting is more than just a question of talent. Acting is a craft. Part of it can be learned, all of it improved."

[[image - photo captioned "1948 - Kazan (left) celebrating the first anniversary of STREETCAR with the cast and playwright"; I-r: Elia Kazan, Jessica Tandy, Tennessee Williams, Ann Dere??, Karl Malden, Kim Hunter]]

"I've found everything in my life satisfying, particularly my work in the theatre. I was lucky, priviledged really, to work with playwrights like Williams, Miller, Anderson and with actors like Brando.... I've never really left the theatre. I would like to direct a play again."

[[image - photographed captioned "1954 - Kazan directing James Dean in EAST OF EDEN"]]

"Film is a fantastic medium - a medium that has made the realistic theatre passé. Theatre must now get on with what it was invented to do - address itself to the mythic, the poetic, the symbolic. In that arena television and movies can't touch a live performance."

1973 - Kazan, author of three novels, AMERICA, AMERICA; THE ARRANGEMENT; THE ASSASSINS. "I always wanted to be a writer. It offers a more intimate, more personal satisfaction than doing the work of somebody else. I suppose it is the challenge of confronting yourself....I believe in the arts as a force for change. Over decades the arts accomplish a gradual civilization of people so that they become more human. And that, after all, is our goal."



[[image - photo of female flight attendant helping seated male passenger



with coat]]

[[image - drawing of Delta Airline's route map in the US.]]

Delta is an air line run by professionals. Like Rose Wynne, Stewardess. Rose beat out 24 other fine applicants to enter Delta's rigorous training program and passed with flying colors. She loves being part chef, part wine steward, part mother, part sweetheart and part hostess. And the nice thing about it is we have 4,000 Roses. Delta is ready when you are.

[[image - photograph of Delta TriStar airplane]] Delta's Wide-Ride TM TriStar gives "comfort" a whole new meaning. Now Delta has the 747, the 727, the DC-10 and the TriStar in its Wide-Ride fleet.

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