



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Playbill for Ma Rainey's Black Bottom

Extracted on Apr-02-2023 01:32:24

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the National Museum of African American History and Culture as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the National Museum of African American History and Culture website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact National Museum of African American History and Culture or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the National Museum of African American History and Culture. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

[[double line]]
Dear Playbill...

Dear PLAYBILL: While enjoying Cats at the Winter Garden recently, I was surprised to see that the audience was permitted to visit the stage during intermission. Can you tell me if any other Broadway shows have allowed audiences to come onstage during intermission?
-Robert J. Ramos
Staten Island, N.Y.

Godspell permitted audiences to visit the stage during intermission and free wine was served. Years ago, in the 1920's, the popular revue series, Earl Carroll's Vanities, invited audiences onstage to dance during intermission, with a full orchestra providing the music.

* * *

Dear PLAYBILL: Can you tell me if Richard Harris ever recorded his revival of Camelot?
-Mary Fox
Philadelphia, Pa.

Yes. According to the record department of Doubleday Book Shops, Richard Harris and the cast of that revival recorded the musical on two labels: That's Entertainment and Varese Sarabande. Double-day has the latter album.

* * *

Dear PLAYBILL: Please settle an argument. I say that more women attend the theatre; my friend says more men. Who's right?
-Lois Campagna
Ridgefield, N.J.

According to a survey conducted by PLAYBILL in 1983, 52.4 percent females attend the theatre and 47.6 males.

* * *

Dear PLAYBILL: When a drama critic goes to a show to review it, can he take a friend along?
-Alexander Alwyn
Hillsdale, N.J.

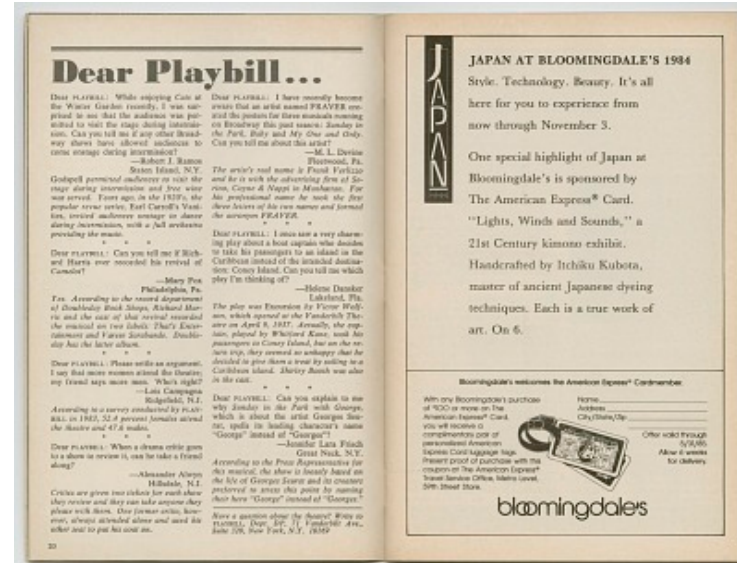
Critics are given two tickets for each show they review and they can take anyone they please with them. One former critic, however, always attended alone and used his other seat to put his coat on.

Dear PLAYBILL: I have recently become aware that an artist named FRAVER created the posters for three musicals running on Broadway this past season: Sunday in the Park, Baby and My One and Only. Can you tell me about this artist?
-M.L. Devine
Fleetwood, Pa.

The artist's real name is Frank Verizzo and he is with the advertising firm of Serino, Coyne & Nappi in Manhattan. For his professional name he took the first three letters of his two names and formed the acronym FRAVER.

* * *

Dear PLAYBILL: I once saw a very charming play about a boat captain who decides to take his passengers to an island in the Caribbean instead of the intended destination: Coney Island. Can you tell me which play I'm thinking of?



-Helene Dansker
Lakeland, Fla.

The play was Excursion by Victor Wolfson, which opened at the Vanderbilt Theatre on April 9, 1937. Actually, the captain, played by Whitford Kane, took his passengers to Coney Island, but on the return ship, they seemed so unhappy that he decided to give them a treat by sailing to a Caribbean island. Shirley Booth was also in the cast.
* * *

Dear PLAYBILL: Can you explain to me why Sunday in the Park with George, which is about the artist Georges Seurat, spells its leading character's name "George" instead of "Georges"?
-Jennifer Lara Frisch
Great Neck, N.Y.

According to the Press Representative for this musical, the show is loosely based on the life of Georges Seurat and its creator preferred to stress this point by naming their hero "George" instead of "Georges."
[[line]]
Have a question about the theatre? Write to the PLAYBILL, Dept. DP, 71 Vanderbilt Ave., Suite 320, New York, N.Y. 10169

20

[[end page]]
[[start page]]

[[advertisement]]

JAPAN

Japan at Bloomingdale's 1984

Style. Technology. Beauty. It's all here for you to experience from now through November 3.

One special highlight of Japan at Bloomingdale's is sponsored by The American Express[[registered trademark symbol]] Card. "Lights, Winds and Sounds," a 21st Century kimono exhibit. Handcrafted by Itchiku Kubota, master of ancient Japanese dyeing techniques. Each is a true work of art. On 6.

Bloomingdale's welcomes the American Express[[registered trademark symbol]] Cardmember.

With any Bloomingdale's purchase of \$100 or more on The American Express[[registered trademark symbol]] Card, you will receive a complimentary pair of personalized American Express card luggage tags. Present proof of purchase with this coupon at the American Express® Travel Service Office, Metro Level, 59th Street Store.

[[image - drawing of of luggage tags]]

Name _____
Address _____

City/State/Zip _____
Offer valid through
5/31/85
Allow 6 weeks for delivery.

bloomingdale's

[[/advertisement]]

Playbill for Ma Rainey's Black Bottom
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Apr-02-2023 01:32:24



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)