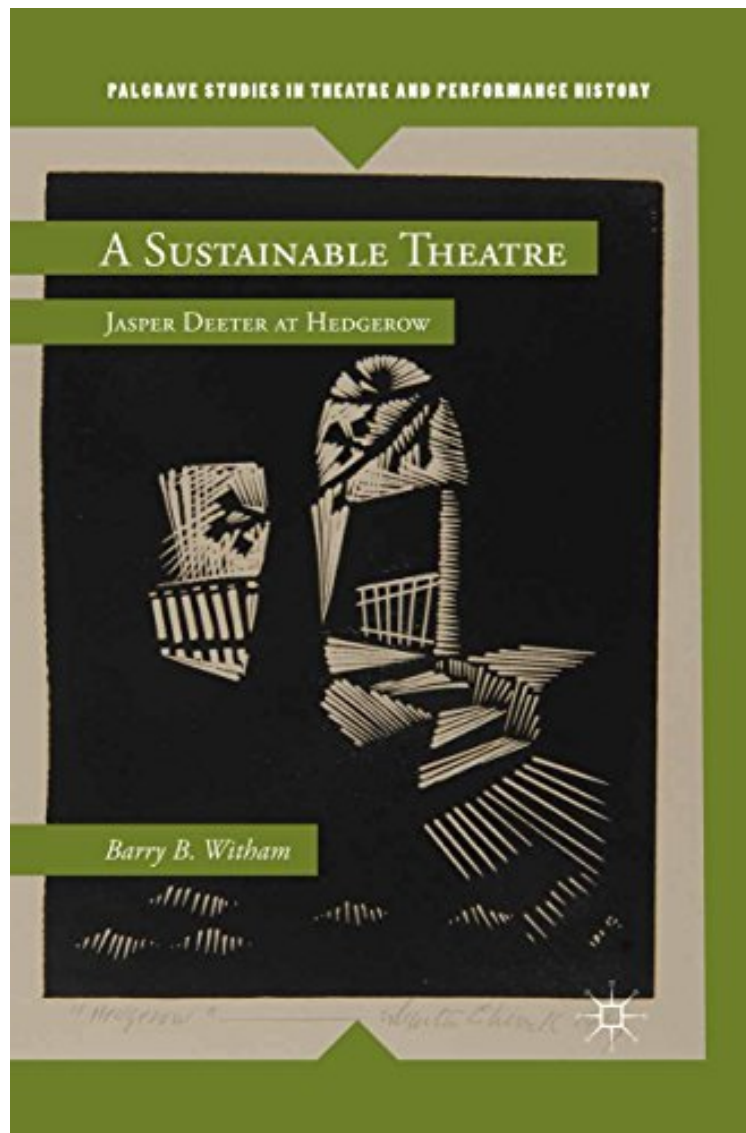


[Download pdf] A Sustainable Theatre: Jasper Deeter at Hedgerow (Palgrave Studies in Theatre and Performance History)

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B. Witham

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Begun as an audacious experiment, for thirty years the Hedgerow Theatre prospered as America's most successful repertory company. While known for its famous alumnae (Ann Harding and Richard Basehart), Hedgerow's legacy is a living library of over 200 productions created by Jasper Deeter's idealistic and determined pursuit of 'truth and beauty.'

"A Sustainable Theatre is comprehensive, revelatory and entirely engaging. Jasper Deeter's contributions as Hedgerow Theatre founder, stage director and acting teacher are wide-spread and profound. His determination to wed quality theatre to the land itself is inspirational and strikingly contemporary, suggesting how excellence and innovation in theatre corresponded fundamentally to twentieth-century grassroots America. Thanks to Barry B. Witham's sparkling study we now know how and why that was so. Bravo!" - Stuart J. Hecht, Department of Theatre, Boston College, USA"Witham's rescue of a vital but neglected experiment in American theatre not only traces Jasper Deeter's concept for a 'sustainable theatre' through that director's three decades with the legendary Hedgerow, but it also sheds new light on theatre artists like Susan Glaspell and Hallie Flanagan whose careers were surprisingly impacted by the work there. The blending of narrative history with significant productions makes this an essential contribution to American cultural studies." - Felicia Hardison Londreacut;, Curators' Professor of Theatre, University of Missouri-Kansas City, USA, Dean, College of Fellows of the American Theatre"With characteristic thoroughness, insight, and clarity, Barry B. Witham leads readers through the history of one of the United States' most fascinating and yet comparatively unexplored experiments in theatre-making. Following thirty years of the legendary Hedgerow Theatre, Witham traces the work of its founder, Jasper Deeter, an artist committed to developing a 'living library' of American drama. Witham argues persuasively for the impact that Deeter and his compatriots had on the development of American drama, examining the company's influence on the careers of iconic figures including Morris Carnovsky and Eugene O'Neill" - Heather S. Nathans, Professor, School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, University of Maryland, USAAbout the AuthorBarry B. Witham is Professor Emeritus of Theatre at the University of Washington, USA.