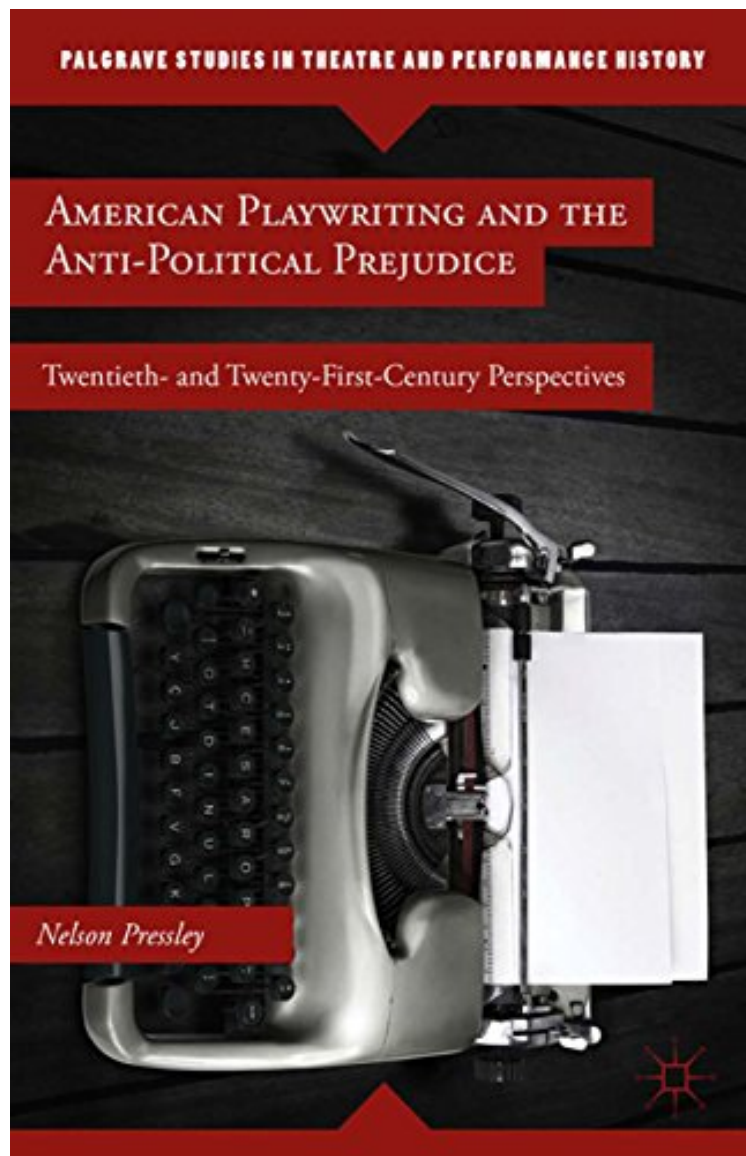


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American Playwriting and the Anti-Political Prejudice: Twentieth- and Twenty-First-Century Perspectives (Palgrave Studies in Theatre and Performance History)

N. Pressley

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Twenty years after Tony Kushner's influential *Angels in America* seemed to declare a revitalized potency for the popular political play, there is a "No Politics" prejudice undermining US production and writing. This book explores the largely unrecognized cultural patterns that discourage political playwriting on the contemporary American stage.

"American Playwriting and the Anti-Political Prejudice addresses a timely, even urgent question: what has happened to the tradition of socially engaged playwriting in the United States since its two high-water marks in the twentieth century? Something has changed - perhaps irrevocably - in the way our culture makes room for political debate on its stages, in the way playwrights theatricalize political life, embody committed thought and action, and measure the space between utopian ideals and harsher realities." - Marc Robinson, author of *The American Play: 1787-2000*

About the Author Nelson Pressley recently received his PhD from the University of Maryland.