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# BONEAU / BRYAN-BROWN

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## CONTINUING A GREAT TRADITION

### *THE BEST PLAYS OF 2000–2001*

ESSAYISTS INCLUDE BRUSTEIN, DOLEN, GUSSOW, NOVICK, WEBER  
HIRSCHFELD ILLUSTRATES

(New York, NY) — This month, the publication of *The Best Plays of 2000–2001* (Limelight Editions, \$47.50, 460 pages) continues a tradition that dates back to 1920, when **Burns Mantle** founded the annual series of United States theater. This new edition is especially valuable to theater lovers, students, and scholars as the only permanent record of the theater season to provide a variety of thoughtful and entertaining perspectives—and for the first time, the year's *Best Plays* are celebrated in essays by some of the nation's most distinguished critics.

Under new series editor **Jeffrey Eric Jenkins**, the current edition honors 10 New York-based dramatic works and three plays from the resident theater while providing a collection of viewpoints on the season under review. It also offers an extensive compendium of facts and figures about the theater season in New York and around the United States. Continuing his six-decade relationship with *Best Plays* is the brilliant artist, **Al Hirschfeld**, whose inimitable illustrations capture the spirit of the plays, productions and performers.

*The Best Plays of 2000–2001* were chosen from Broadway, Off Broadway and Off Off Broadway productions of new plays that opened between June 1, 2000 and May 31, 2001. The choices were made by Jenkins after consultation with the *Best Plays* editorial board, which includes Robert Brustein, Tish Dace, Christine Dolen, Mel Gussow, Robert Hurwitz, John Istel, Chris Jones, Julius Novick, Michael Phillips, Christopher Rawson, Alisa Solomon, Jeffrey Sweet, Linda Winer and Charles Wright. The United States resident theater is represented in new-play statistics and in essays by Michael Grossberg and Michael Sommers on plays recognized by the American Theatre Critics Association in its Steinberg New Play Award and Citations competition.

**The Best Plays of 2000–2001 (in alphabetical order):** *Boy Gets Girl* by Rebecca Gilman (Chris Jones, essayist); *The Invention of Love* by Tom Stoppard (Charles Wright, essayist); *King Hedley II* by August Wilson (Christopher Rawson, essayist); *Lobby Hero* by Kenneth Lonergan (Tish Dace, essayist); *Mnemonic* by Complicite (John Istel, essayist); *Nocturne* by Adam Rapp (Robert Brustein, essayist); *The Play About the Baby* by Edward Albee (Christine Dolen, essayist); *The Producers* by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan (Julius Novick, essayist); *Proof* by David Auburn (Bruce Weber, essayist); *Urinetown* by Greg Kotis and Mark Hollmann (Jeffrey Sweet, essayist). Each of the Best Plays of 2000–2001 is illustrated by photographic highlights from the honored production.

Further information on the *Best Plays* series—including the current book's introduction—may be found at [www.BestPlaysOnline.com](http://www.BestPlaysOnline.com).

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