Schumacher

Staging the Holocaust

The Shoah in Drama and Performance

'To portray the Holocaust, one has to create a work of art', says Claude Lanzmann, the director of Shoah. However, can the Holocaust be turned into theatre? Is it possible to portray on stage events that, by their monstrosity, defy human comprehension? These are the questions addressed by the playwrights and the scholars featured in this book. Their essays present and analyse plays performed in Israel, America, France, Italy, Poland and, of course, Germany. The style of presentation ranges from docudramas to avant-garde performances, from realistic impersonation of historical figures to provocative and nightmarish spectacles. The book is illustrated with original production photographs and some rare drawings and documents; it also contains an important descriptive bibliography of more than two hundred Holocaust plays.

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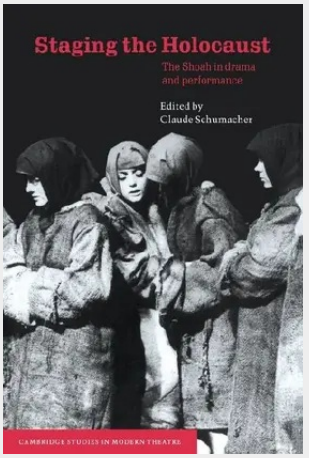

67,20 €
67,20 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9780521035200
Medium: Buch
ISBN: 978-0-521-03520-0
Verlag: Cambridge University Press
Erscheinungstermin: 08.11.2006
Sprache(n): Englisch
Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 2006
Serie: Cambridge Studies in Modern Theatre
Produktform: Kartoniert
Gewicht: 603 g
Seiten: 371
Format (B x H): 152 x 229 mm

Kundenservice Verlag Dr. Otto Schmidt KG
Neumannstraße 10, 40235 Düsseldorf | kundenservice@otto-schmidt.de | 0221-93738-997 (Inland)