



Edwin Booth: A Bio-Bibliography (Bio-Bibliographies in the Performing Arts)

By L Oggel



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Edwin Booth was the foremost Shakespearean actor in late nineteenth-century America, enjoying almost mythic status. This comprehensive analysis and documentation of his career provides an aperture from which to view theatre and society of the period. The scholarly bibliography of over 1,000 annotated entries includes substantive writings about Booth in books, journals, and dissertations covering 130 years during and after his career as well as ephemeral references to Booth in the major journals of his day and a section of specialized reference materials relating to Booth. Among its unique features are a section on Booth's own writings and a section on Booth manuscript materials identified in sixty-four repositories in the United States and England.

A biographical sketch analyzes Booth's career in terms of the major periods and upheavals in his life: his early fame, the death of his first wife, the assassination of President Lincoln by his brother, his management of Booth's Theatre, and his national and international tours. Accompanying this is a chronology of major events, a genealogical chart, and reproductions of portraits and playbills. Fully indexed, this volume makes a wealth of material readily available to Booth scholars as well as to others researching related theatre and social history.

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About the Author

L. TERRY OGGEL is Associate Dean, College of Humanities and Sciences, Virginia Commonwealth University. He has published extensively on Edwin Booth, Mark Twain, James Russell Lowell, and other topics in American literature and theatre and is the editor of *The Letters and Notebooks of Mary Devlin Booth* (Greenwood Press, 1987).

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