Boise State University ScholarWorks

College of Arts and Sciences Presentations

2015 Undergraduate Research and Scholarship Conference

1-1-2015

Author's Place, Digital Space: Mapping Tennessee Williams, 1938-1948

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Click on the colored dots on the map below to see more information. To view the fully formatted map, download the Mapping the Writer's Life Tennessee Williams KMZ file below and open with Google Earth.

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MAPPING THE WRITER'S LIFE: Tennessee Williams

St. Louis, Missouri

"Make voyages! — Attempt them! — there's nothing else . . ."

- Tennessee Williams, Camino Real

ABSTRACT

Leroy St. NY NY 319 W 11th St. NY, NY 100 Henry St. Brooklyn NY

National Theatre, Washington DC

21 Beacon St. Boston Captain Jack's Wharf BD Commercial

From 1938-1948, twentieth-century American author Tennessee Williams traveled the country with his portable typewriter and a battered suitcase. He wrote every day, and his writings reflect the places and people he encountered. Williams's journey from obscurity to fame as a writer during this decade parallels the nation's path from depression to postwar prosperity. We use Google Earth to create placemarks that highlight Williams's professional and personal connections, production histories, and social and political contexts.

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New Orleans, Louisiana

During January and February 1939 Williams resided at the boarding house at 722 Toulouse Street. While there, Williams worked on a first draft of Vieux Carré, which was titled Dead Planet, the Moon at the time. The boarding house became the setting for this story through the final draft.



St. Louis embodied the best and the worst life had to offer for Williams. In December 1938, the writer left his family's suburban home, never to live there again. When asked what brought him to New Orleans, Williams often replied, "St. Louis."



1917 Snowden Ave, Memphis TN

Glarksdale, MS

Salle St and W. Lake St., Ch

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Clayton, MO. Clayte

Clayton, MO

Atlanta, GA 1 King St, Charleston SC 619 College St, Macon GA 2540 Vineville Ave, Macon GA 507 Georgia Ave, Macon GA

St Simons Island, GA Darien, GA

230 E. Forsyth St. Jacksonville, FL 246 Charlotte St, St Augustine FL

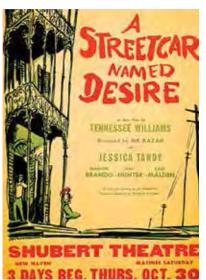
710 Orleans Ave, New Orleans LA ter St, New Orleans LA

SW 7th St & SW 55th Ave, Coral Gables FL Coral Gables F

430 Duval St. Key West FL Duval St & Caroline St. Key West, FL

New York. New York

A Streetcar Named Desire opened on Broadway on 43 Langner In Weston #T I Pine St, Na December 2, 1947 at New York's Ethel Barrymore Theatre. While initially a controversial piece, it ran for 855 performances and is considered by many to be "the best play" of both Williams's work and of all American playwrights to date.



In Scene 7 of Streetcar, Blanche sings "Paper Moon" while in the bathtub. Williams specifically highlights this song because the lyrics weave into the relationship between Blanche and Stanley



