

# The Establishment of Technical Roles in Pittsburgh Theatre Production

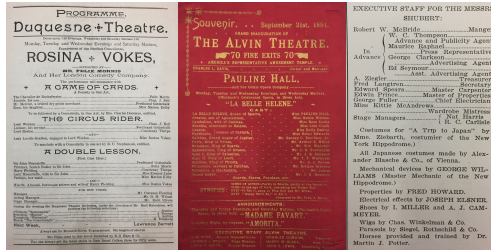
Kristen Alicia West

Archival Scholars Research Award

Department of Theatre Arts – Design & Technology, Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences, University of Pittsburgh  
Special Collections, Hillman Library System, University of Pittsburgh



## Alvin & Duquesne Theatre Programs



Programs from Duquesne Theatre & Alvin Theatre (1890, 1891 & 1910, respectively)

The Duquesne & Alvin Theatres were the most prominent theatres in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Their production value and position within the community allowed them to advance technical theatre production.

## Institution of Theatre Technology in Pittsburgh

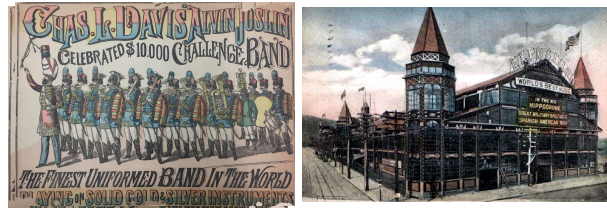


A photograph of the green room at the Alvin Theatre (1893). As technical advancements and the value of theatre production increased, more theatres were built, attracting wealthy and working class patrons. Pittsburgh Theatres were particularly known for their equal treatment of headliners and ensemble members.

## Research Questions

- How did social, economic, technological, and cultural development influence the emergence of technical theatre, and thereby stage management, historically?
- How does the role of early stage managers compare to the role of stage managers today?

## Pittsburgh's Performance & Technological Advances



The Pittsburgh Exposition & Alvin Theatre pioneered significant technical advancements in performance throughout the Pittsburgh region in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

## Conclusions

At the turn of the twentieth century, theatre technology began to advance with the technological innovations and societal influence of the Pittsburgh community. The new source of financial support and demand of the theatre patrons enabled producers to create pieces of performance which were influenced by the industrial advancements of the time.

## Acknowledgements

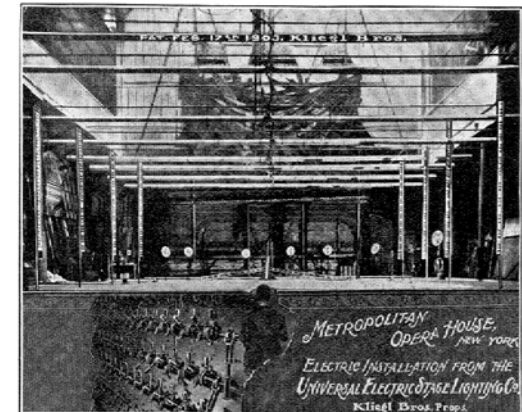
Annamarie Duggan, Theatre Arts Department Chair  
William Daw, Archivist, Special Collections  
Jeanann Croft Haas, Department Head, Special Collections

## Pittsburgh Exposition Programs



The Pittsburgh Exposition Programs (from 1883, 1906, and 1912, respectively) advertised productions assisted by technological advancements such as the contracts with electrical companies for lighting and productions with burning houses.

## Institution of Theatre Technology Nationally



Metropolitan Opera's (1903) new electrical system from the 1913 Kliegl Brothers catalogue. There are eight sets of border lights above, four sets of wing lights, seven bunch lights upstage, and the switch board is located in the basement.

# An Archive of Emotion: Queer Periodicals and Intergenerational Knowledge

Zachary Grewe

Dr. Julie Beaulieu

Archival Scholars Research Award

Department of Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies, Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences, University of Pittsburgh

Special Collections, Hillman Library System, University of Pittsburgh

## Classifieds

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

"Classifieds Personals" Planet Queer, vol. 4, no. 11. November 1997.

"Bazaar." Pittsburgh's Out, no. 134. May 1988.

## Letters to the Editor

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

"Our Readers Say" Gay News Pittsburgh, vol. 3, no. 17. September 1979.

"Letters." Pittsburgh gay times. July 1972.

## Advertisements

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

"The Follies" Gay Life, No 30. September 1979.

"The Activist." Pittsburgh gay times. May 1972.

## Research Questions

- How do queer periodicals allow for the intergenerational exchange of queer knowledge?
- How might remembering and being remembered serve as a type of activism?

## Publications

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

## Conclusions

- For queer-identified scholars, working in the queer archives can invoke a sense of queer nostalgia – a longing for the sense of community created by marginality.
- Current activists have much to learn from the radical orientation and coalition building of their queer elders.
- The queer community has both much to offer to and much to gain from the queer archives.
- Future research should work to bridge the gap between the queer community and its archives.

## Acknowledgements

Dr. Julie Beaulieu, Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies  
Jennifer Needham, Archivist, Special Collections  
Jeanann Croft Haas, Department Head, Special Collections  
Digital Scholarship Services

## News

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

"One Door Opens While Another Slams Shut: Gays, Immigrants and Earthquake Relief." Planet Queer, vol. 1, no. 1. April 1994.

"Live Long Sugar." Planet Queer, vol. 1, no. 7. October 1994.

## Activism

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

"Pitt Mens Study Funding still threatened, call your U.S. Senators and Representative today!" Planet Queer, vol. 1, no. 3. June 1994.

"The Prison Cell." Pittsburgh Gay News, No 7. December 1973.

## Creative Content

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

The image part with relationship ID rId3 was not found in the file.

"My Boy, My Lover" Pittsburgh gay times. May 1972.

"The Activist." Pittsburgh gay times. May 1972.