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EA1

Contemporary Theatre Studies

Volume 2

THEANDRIC

Julian Beck's Last Notebooks

Edited by Erica Bilder, with notes by Judith Mallna



"Gasping for air - that's how the public comes to the theatre, wrapped stiff in the corset of convention (law and conformity). The audience can scarcely breathe. It senses itself dying. The whole theatrical act is a ritual designed to renew vitality, to deliver us from death, and this is accomplished by taking a breath." **Julian Beck**, *Theandric*.

A sequel to *The Life of the Theatre*, *Theandric* was largely written between 1975 and 1985, the year Julian Beck died. While writing this, he was terminally ill and *Theandric* is very much about fighting death, about dying and not dying, till the very last moment. In that sense, this book is an ultimate statement on the "philosophy and metaphysics of the theatre", a subtitle that Julian Beck frequently used with regard to *Theandric*. His life-long concerns - the structure of the relationship between audience and theatre workers; the relationship of the artist to the political time in which he lives - are crystallized. He was happy to have found an existing word (*theandric*) expressing the presence of the divine in the actor, the divine in Man. (A volume in the **Living Theatre Archive** section.)

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The Market Theatre, Johannesburg 1976-1986

By Anne Fuchs

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Volume 1 Part 1

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOVIET/BRITISH PUPPETRY CONFERENCE,

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Edited by: **Malcolm Knight**, Director, the Scottish Mask and Puppet Centre, Glasgow



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