
LETTERS

THE EDITORS:

Your latest issue on Brecht has prompted me to renew my subscription.

Regarding the statement against the Vietnam war signed by the Editors, Staff, and Contributors of TDR—perhaps you might think about submitting the same statement for signatures from your subscribers. I would maintain that anyone with the intelligence needed to read TDR has also the intelligence to see through our government's immoral, aggressive involvement in this imperialistic war.

I commend you for both the signed statement and the editorials.

*John Van Eyck
Chicago, Illinois*

THE EDITORS:

. . . The extent of editorial involvement in the ad placed in your Fall issue [T37] against American involvement in Vietnam, makes it impossible for me to renew my subscription. When you stick to theatre I think you are good; when you indulge in "wishful-thinking" I deplore it. When you ask foreigners to pass judgement on our policies I resent it. When you minimize the convictions of the fallen, I censure it.

*Theodore N. Hoan
New York City*

THE BB/HB AFFAIR

THE EDITORS:

Thank you for sending me the Brecht edition [T37] of *The Drama Review*. May I point out an error: On pp. 78 to 91 [actually, pp.

HB

*Uta Hagen
Herbert Berghof*

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88-100—*ed.*] you published an essay by Bertolt Brecht about the Prelude to the *Caucasian Chalk Circle*. The contribution is copyrighted in the name of Hugo Schmidt. This essay is indeed contained in volume 6 of the first edition of the *Schriften zum Theater*. However, after the publication of this set it was discovered that the actual author of the essay was Dr. Hans Bunge, a collaborator of Brecht's. Subsequently I published the essay under the name of its author in volume 155 of Edition Suhrkamp, *Materialien zu Brechts DER KAUKASISCHE KREIDEKREIS* and added the following note:

P. 79: Prelude. This contribution was found, among other typescripts, in Brecht's papers after his death, and was included in volume 6 of the *Schriften zum Theater*. In the meantime, it was discovered that the actual author of the contribution is Hans Bunge, who at that time was working on the Chalk Circle

production of the Berlin Ensemble. We apologize for the mistake.

Remaining copies of the edition are sold with a correction slip included. Since the volume with the Chalk Circle Materials has been available since March, 1966, it is very regrettable that the choice of a new essay of Brecht's fell on one that had come from the pen of a different author. I would like to ask you to include an appropriate correction in one of your subsequent issues, and to get in touch with Dr. Hans Bunge, 102 Berlin, Rosenthaler Str. 40/41.

Werner Hecht: Editor of Brecht's theoretical writings. Berlin, 1/12/68

Declaration

The short essay about the Prelude to the *Caucasian Chalk Circle* printed in TDR was not written by Bertolt Brecht, but by me, on the

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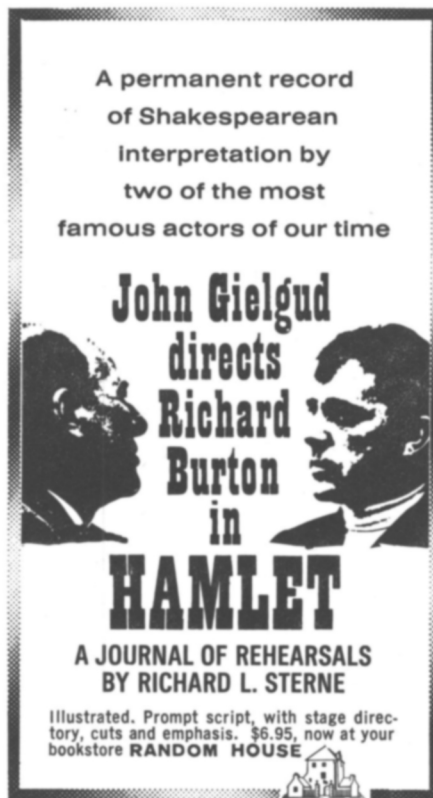
occasion of a production of the play in 1954. It was written in order to clarify matters for us, and Brecht received, as usual, a copy for his comments. Later on I used my essay toward a study, "Der Streit um das Tal" (The Dispute over the Valley) which was printed in the supplement of number 11/1956 of *Theater der Zeit* (Berlin). In December, 1959, it was published in *The Tulane Drama Review*—without my knowledge, but with my name. The editor of [Brecht's] *Schriften zum Theater* assumed that the unsigned copy of my essay, found among Brecht's papers after his death, had been authored by Brecht, and he published the text in vol. 6 (Frankfurt/Main, 1964, pp. 258-364). After my pointing out the mistake, a correction appeared in the *Materialen zu Brecht's 'Der Kaukasische Kreidekreis'* (Materials toward Brecht's The Caucasian Chalk Circle) (edition Suhrkamp, Frankfurt/Main 1966, vol. 155, p. 79, and the pertaining note on p. 191).

Dr. Hans Bunge. Berlin, 2/20/68

Reply

The first of the above documents is our translation of a letter to the Editor of TDR, written in a language he does not understand. We not only obeyed, and instantly, the order to get in touch with Dr. Hans Bunge. We recalled that our old friend Eric Bentley actually knew Dr. Bunge. So we had Dr. Bentley write Dr. Bunge, and the fruit of our enterprise and his was the second of the above documents, an inimitable Declaration. In a note to Dr. Bentley, Dr. Bunge added that his attorney had already heard from the Suhrkamp Verlag, German publishers of Dr. Brecht.

Storm in a red tea-cup! Over which future Brechtians can spend many an hour of quiet fun. For this is not the first time that a Voice from East Berlin has announced that a passage published by Brecht's publishers in the works of Brecht was in fact written, not by Brecht, but by Dr. Hans Bunge. And this



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