

The Musical Theatre Collaboration Class

(Petition for Honors credit)

Course & Class Num: THEA 4335, 30262
Time & Location: W 2:30 – 5:30, TBA
Instructor: Stuart Ostrow

Three teams, consisting of graduate, undergraduate, and non-matriculating UH eligible composers, lyricists, book writers, directors, producers, choreographers, designers, and stage managers, are chosen by Stuart Ostrow each fall semester. Each team is assigned a risky underlying work to be musicalized, and are nurtured and encouraged to learn the necessary give and take of the crucial writing/collaborative process. At the end of the semester, excerpts from all three newly created musicals are performed by the Musical Theatre Lab Class for an enlightened Houston audience.

Composers may perform their compositions live, or submit a tape and/or score of their work intended for musical theatre, opera, pop music, symphonic/chamber/choral, or any other vocal or instrumental form that conveys the human condition. Lyricists and librettists may submit examples of their work, intended for musical theatre, opera, or pop music, or as poetry expressed in verse, song, or rhyme. Book writers may submit original plays, musicals, novels, tales, newspaper articles, reviews, diary, etc.; any writing that tells or dramatizes a story. Directors and choreographers may present a scene, musical number, or staged dance, from any play, musical, or ballet. Each applicant must provide his or her own cast, and accompanist.

Designers must show portfolio, including models of sets and costume swatches, if available. Producers should show evidence of their ability to be hard-headed, soft-hearted, cautious, reckless, a hopeful innocent in fair weather, a stern pilot in stormy weather, a mathematician who prefers to ignore the laws of mathematics and trust intuition, an idealist, a realist, a practical dreamer, a sophisticated gambler, a stage-struck child. Stage managers must aspire to be producers.

The Musical Theatre Workshop

(Petition for Honors credit)

Course & Class Num: THEA 4336, 30264
Time & Location: W 2:30 – 5:30, TBA
Instructor: Stuart Ostrow

The Musical Theatre Lab, originated at St. Clements Church in New York City, developed at the Kennedy Center and Harvard, is now in its 35th productive season at the University

of Houston. Established by the Stuart Ostrow Foundation in 1973, the Lab is a non-profit, professional workshop for original musical theatre, the first of its kind. Since its inception the MT Lab has presented 39 experimental new works, including *The Robber Bridegroom* by Alfred Uhry and Robert Waldman, *Really Rosie* by Maurice Sendak and Carole King, *Up From Paradise* by Arthur Miller and Stanley Silverman, and *Medea* by Robert Wilson. **Musical Theatre Workshop Fall 2008 Auditions in the Lyndall Finley Wortham Theatre; Singers & Dancers-Tuesday, April 8th – 2:00 – 4:00 PM**

Singers should prepare two vocal selections (one up tempo, one ballad) and provide sheet music in the correct key. An accompanist will be provided, no tapes please. Singers may be asked to perform a monologue of their choice, cold-read a new scene, learn additional music, or a movement combination. Dancers should bring or wear appropriate dance attire and shoes, and provide cassette/CD player, if required. A dance combination will be taught. Please bring photo and resume. There will be no initial type out audition.

World Cultures & Literature

Frames of Modernity II: Exile and Literature

Course & Class Num: WCL 4352H, 33429
Time & Location: T 2:30 – 5:30, 212S L
Instructor: Robert D. Zaretsky

The theme of exile in literature is as old as the *Epic of Gilgamesh* and the Hebrew Bible. Yet, during the twentieth century—a century convulsed by revolutions, world wars, and genocides—something happens to this theme. That “something” will be this course's focus. For practical and historical reasons, France will serve as our common ground. We will give particular attention to Albert Camus, whose life and work straddled France and his native Algeria. Other writers we will read—all of whom lived as exiles in France—will be the Czech novelist Milan Kundera, the Polish poets Zbigniew Herbert and Adam Zagajewski, the German philosopher Walter Benjamin, the American writers Gertrude Stein and Ernest Hemingway, and the Russian-French novelist Irène Némirovsky. This course will count toward the new *Phronesis* minor in politics and ethics.