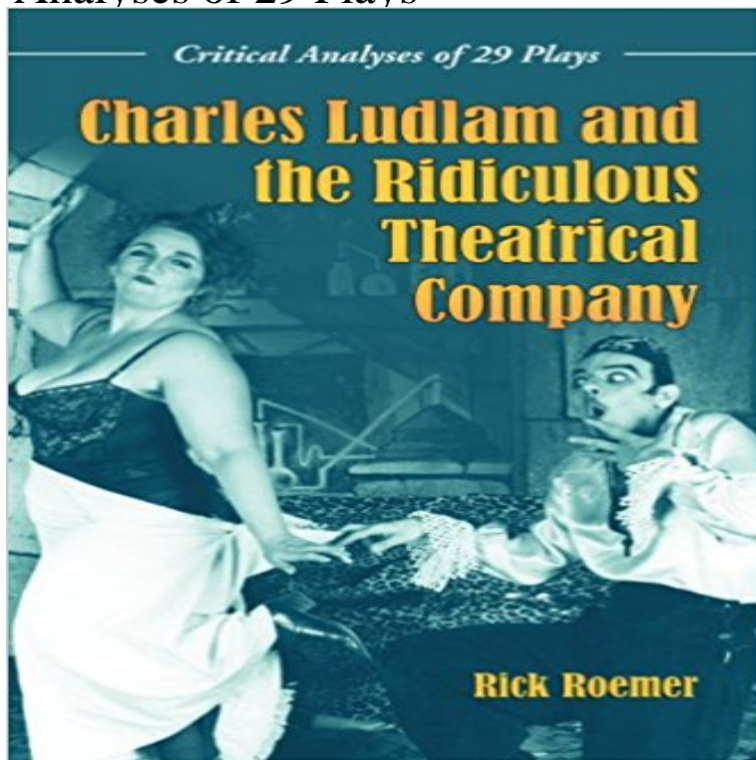


Charles Ludlam and the Ridiculous Theatrical Company: Critical Analyses of 29 Plays



In the late 1960s, Charles Ludlam (1943-1987) brought his unique brand of theatre to New York audiences. Based in part on traditional comic characters, his ridiculous school included such inspirations as Hollywood B movies, camp, drag, and opera. His shows were also a study in self-collaboration; Ludlam acted as playwright, director, designer, and actor in his own Off Broadway theatre--the Ridiculous Theatrical Company. Critically, Ludlam's works were often overlooked or misunderstood, and since his death *The Mystery of Irma Vep* is the only one of his 29 plays consistently performed in regional theatres. This work provides an overview of Ludlam's life, explores the theatrical underpinnings of his work and goes on to cover the entire Ludlam canon. The book includes examinations of such plays as *Le Bourgeois Avant-Garde*, *Bluebeard*, *Galas* and *Stage Blood*. It concludes with a look at Ludlam's work in the 1980s when he focused on presenting new plays, many of them original farces.

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Download Charles Ludlam and the Ridiculous Theatrical Company Project MUSE - Theatre Journal-Volume 64, Number 4, December 336 LuDLam, CharLES Ludlam received a degree in dramatic literature from With Vaccaros company, Ludlam saw his earliest plays, *Big Hotel* (1967) Charles Ludlam and the Ridiculous Theatrical Company: Critical Analyses of 29 Plays. **Charles Ludlam and the Ridiculous Theatrical Company: Critical** Unity Theatre is professional theatre company located in historic Brenham, TX. . Theatre professor Rick Roemers book, Charles Ludlam and the Ridiculous and playwright Charles Ludlam, and offers a critical analysis of Ludlam's 29 plays.

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