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Understanding August Wilson

By Mary Bogumil

University of South Carolina Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 184 pages. Dimensions: 7.9in. x 5.0in. x 0.9in. August Wilson counts among Americas greatest playwrights--having garnered commercial success on Broadway and critical acclaim including New York Drama Critics Circle Awards, Drama Desk Awards, Tony Awards, and two Pulitzer Prizes. This revised edition of Understanding August Wilson provides a comprehensive view of the thematic structure of Wilsons plays, the placement of his work within the context of American drama, and the distinctively African American experiences and traditions that he dramatizes. Mary L. Bogumil argues that Wilson gave voice to disfranchised and marginalized African Americans who were promised a stake in the American dream but find their access blocked. The author maintains that Wilson wished not only to portray the predicaments of African American life but also to shed light on the atavistic connection African Americans have to their African ancestors. Bogumil explains that the playwrights work both perpetuates and subverts the tradition of American drama in order to expose the distinct differences between white American and African American experiences. Included here are a revised introduction; revised chapters on Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, Fences, Joe Turners Come and Gone, The Piano Lesson, Two...



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