Record Nr. UNINA9910814868903321 Acting up and getting down: plays by African American Texans / / Titolo edited and with introductions by Sandra Mayo and Elvin Holt Pubbl/distr/stampa Austin: .: University of Texas Press. . 2014 **ISBN** 0-292-72765-8 Edizione [First edition.] 1 online resource (365 p.) Descrizione fisica Collana Southwestern Writers Collection series Disciplina 812/.54080896073 Soggetti American drama - African American authors American drama - Texas American drama - 20th century American drama - 21st century African Americans Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references. Nota di contenuto Introduction: definition of black theatre -- Camp Logan / Celeste Bedford Walker -- Johnny B. Goode / Thomas Meloncon --Killingsworth / Eugene Lee -- Driving wheel / Sterling Houston -- Br'er rabbit / adapted by George Hawkins -- When the ancestors call / Elizabeth Brown-Guillory -- Ancestors / Ted Shine. One of the few books of its kind, Acting Up and Getting Down brings Sommario/riassunto together seven African American literary voices that all have a connection to the Lone Star state. Covering Texas themes and universal ones, this collection showcases often-overlooked literary talents to bring to life inspiring facets of black theatre history. Capturing the intensity of racial violence in Texas, from the Battle of San Jacinto to a World War I-era riot at a Houston training ground, Celeste Bedford Walker's Camp Logan and Ted Shine's Ancestors provide fascinating narratives through the lens of history. Thomas Meloncon's Johnny B. Goode and George Hawkins's Br'er Rabbit explore the cultural legacies of blues music and folktales. Three unflinching dramas (Sterling

Houston's Driving Wheel, Eugene Lee's Killingsworth, and Elizabeth Brown-Guillory's When the Ancestors Call) examine homosexuality, a

death in the family, and child abuse, bringing to light the private

tensions of intersections between the individual and the community. Supplemented by a chronology of black literary milestones as well as a playwrights' canon, Acting Up and Getting Down puts the spotlight on creative achievements that have for too long been excluded from Texas letters. The resulting anthology not only provides new insight into a regional experience but also completes the American story as told onstage.