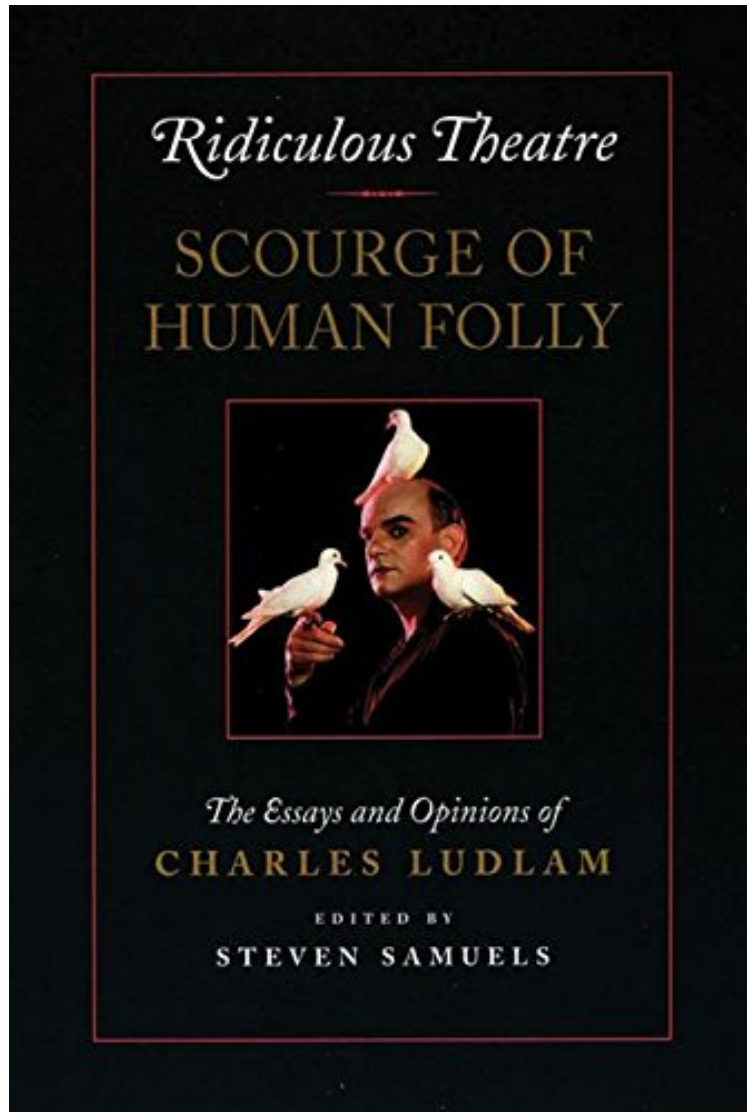


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Ridiculous Theatre: Scourge of Human Folly: The Essays and Opinions of Charles Ludlam

Charles Ludlam

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Charles Ludlam : Ridiculous Theatre: Scourge of Human Folly: The Essays and Opinions of Charles Ludlam before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ridiculous Theatre: Scourge of Human Folly: The Essays and Opinions of Charles Ludlam:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Thought-provoking treatise on PerformingBy Michael ReillyRidiculous Theatre : Scourge of Human Folly : The Essays and Opinions of Charles Ludlam is a true treasure

for anyone ridiculous enough to consider a career as an artist. Ludlam, the actor/director/writer/artistic director of the Ridiculous Theatre, knows a lot about creating art and as a result of his experience, has some very strong opinions on the subject. Ludlam writes about what he knows and what he loves -- the theatre. The essays included in this anthology are extremely insightful and thought-provoking as Ludlam proffers his opinions on every subject from critics to drag to opera (and everything in between). In the end, the reader comes to an understanding of the utter ridiculousness (in a truly wonderful way) of a theatrical life. 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By vallo Riberto Excellent product, very happy with this vendor. I would use again. Thank you. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. demented? genius? demented genius? By Richard Charles Ludlam was, hands down, one of the most brilliant innovators in postmodern theatre. At a time when many radical theatre-types were resting on their laurels (or regurgitating works they created decades earlier), Ludlam and his constant collaborator/companion, Everett Quinton, were experimenting with new forms, keeping things fresh. Unfortunately (or perhaps not), he's been pigeonholed by theatre historians as working exclusively in gay theatre; in point of fact, though, while his audience was largely "downtown" and therefore predominantly gay, his influence was felt throughout theatre community. That's not, however, to say he was a benevolent gay genius. On the contrary: secondhand stories about his professional habits and beliefs are enough to curl the toes of even the cruelest tyrant. That, of course, is why this book is SO enjoyable-- and important. Part autobiography, part manifesto, it explains Ludlam's ideas about art, life, and theatre in his own words. And while it's certainly polemic at times, it's very enlightening and always entertaining.

Edited by Steven Samuels "Unguarded, witty, articulate and extremely smart. Frank Rich, New York Times The greatest comic genius of our time. Judith Malina, The Living Theatre Artistic director, playwright, director, designer and star of New York's acclaimed Ridiculous Theatrical Company, the late Charles Ludlam ransacked theatrical and literary history in an evolutionary quest for a modern art of stage comedy. Seen by some as simply a gifted buffoon, *Ridiculous Theatre: Scourge of Human Folly* exposes Ludlam as a clear-eyed, hard-headed thinker and master craftsman. His luminous essays (never widely available in his lifetime) and provocative opinions (drawn from interviews, unpublished papers and notebooks) reveal a complex mind comprehensively focused on theatrical invention. Charles Ludlam: Artistic director, playwright, director, designer and star of New York's acclaimed Ridiculous Theatrical Company. During his twenty years with the Ridiculous, Ludlam won Obie and Drama Desk awards as well as playwriting fellowships from the Guggenheim, Rockefeller and Ford foundations and the National Endowment for the Arts. His more than thirty plays are among the most thought-provoking entertainments in the modern repertoire and continue to be widely performed throughout the world.

About the Author Charles Ludlam: Artistic director, playwright, director, designer and star of New York's acclaimed Ridiculous Theatrical Company. During his twenty years with the Ridiculous, Ludlam won Obie and Drama Desk awards as well as playwriting fellowships from the Guggenheim, Rockefeller and Ford foundations and the National Endowment for the Arts. His more than thirty plays are among the most thought-provoking entertainments in the modern repertoire and continue to be widely performed throughout the world.