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Fact Sheet

Who we are

Mohonk Mountain Stage Company (MMSC) is an independent theater company that has been taking Hudson Valley audiences on extraordinary theatrical journeys since 1994.

- Founded by Robert Miller to bring unique and exciting theatrical presentations to New York's Hudson Valley.
- Consists of three branches:
 - The Readers Theatre Group (RTG),
 - The Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA)
 - MMSC Publications

**About The
Readers
Theatre Group**

The Readers Theater Group performs actively from the works of playwrights, authors, and poets.

- Over 400 performances of plays, prose and poetry have been presented at venues throughout the Hudson Valley.
- Productions praised by area critics include: **Sylvia, Molly Sweeney, Long Day's Journey Into Night, Taking Sides,** and **Alfred Stieglitz Loves O'Keeffe.**
- MMSC has presented Hudson Valley premieres of **Collected Stories, Art, Left, Holy Days, Mother Hicks, Dinner With Friends, The Laramie Project, Copenhagen, The Waverly Gallery** and **The Guys.**
- Literary evenings include readings from the works of Walt Whitman, James Joyce, Elizabeth Bishop, James Thurber, Mark Twain, Dorothy Parker and John Updike, among others.
- MMSC also works collaboratively with the Dramatic Writing Program at State University of New York (SUNY) New Paltz for its annual **Vanguard Voices Project**, a unique workshop format for emerging playwrights.
- Productions are staged in a Readers Theatre format: a performance style where the word, and all concomitant ideas, purpose, and realizations, become the focus.

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About The Theatre for Young Audiences

MMSC's **Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) Company** performed plays for grades pre-K through 3 in a unique participation format. Productions strove to appeal to the creative imaginations of children and to speak to their very special needs.

- In 1994 MMSC inaugurated its TYA Touring Program with a production of **Androcles**, culminating in a residency at Brooklyn Academy of Music. **Androcles** again toured in 1995.
- The TYA Company toured in schools and theaters in seven states throughout the Midwest and along the East Coast, and held residencies at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C.
- The company was invited to return to the Kennedy Center for three consecutive years with its productions of **Jungle Book**, **Frog Prince** and **Brave Little Tailor**.
- Although the TYA Company still performs readings for young and family audiences, the touring component was discontinued in 1998.

About MMSC Publications

MMSC recognizes its responsibility not only to revel in the work of gifted authors past and present, but to contribute to the development of a body of literature yet to be written.

- MMSC produces two publications:
 - o **Prologue**, a monthly informative newsletter (in both print and electronic form. The first issue of **Prologue** was published in December, 1995.
 - o **Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley**, a semi-annual literary journal, focuses on the development of new plays and a regional poetry competition. The first volume (**Vanguard Voices of the Hudson Valley: New Plays from the SUNY New Paltz Dramatic Writing Program 2003**; Volume 1 Issue 1) was published in April, 2004.

Accolades

Since its inception in 1994, MMSC has garnered many accolades from area critics and publications alike

- In 2003 The Kingston, NY *Daily Freeman* proclaimed MMSC "The Hudson Valley's finest repertory theatre company – with or without sets."
- MMSC's production of **Taking Sides** was named "Drama of the Year" in 1997 by the *Times Herald-Record*.
- MMSC's **Picasso at the Lapin Agile** was runner up for the *Taconic News'* "Best Production" of 1998.
- Other awards received from *The Taconic Newspapers* and *Times Herald-Record* include Best Theatrical Event of the Year, Best Play and Best Actor.