

21st-Century US Theater: Performance and Practice offers a state of the field examination of theatrical trends leading up to and developing out of the 2008 financial crisis. From crisis, comes opportunity, and this crisis caused a ripple effect throughout the field. In the last decade, many US regional theatre companies have closed or disbanded. However, the loss of these institutions allows opportunities to reconsider theatre-making processes and institutional structures, opening up new modes of production and more access to creative opportunity under different economic models. While the Broadway musical still holds sway over a significant portion of the US theatre scene, we will focus here on how organizations like the Network of Ensemble Theatres, the National New Play Network, Howlround, and The Kilroys are agents of change in theatrical performance and practice in the 21st Century.