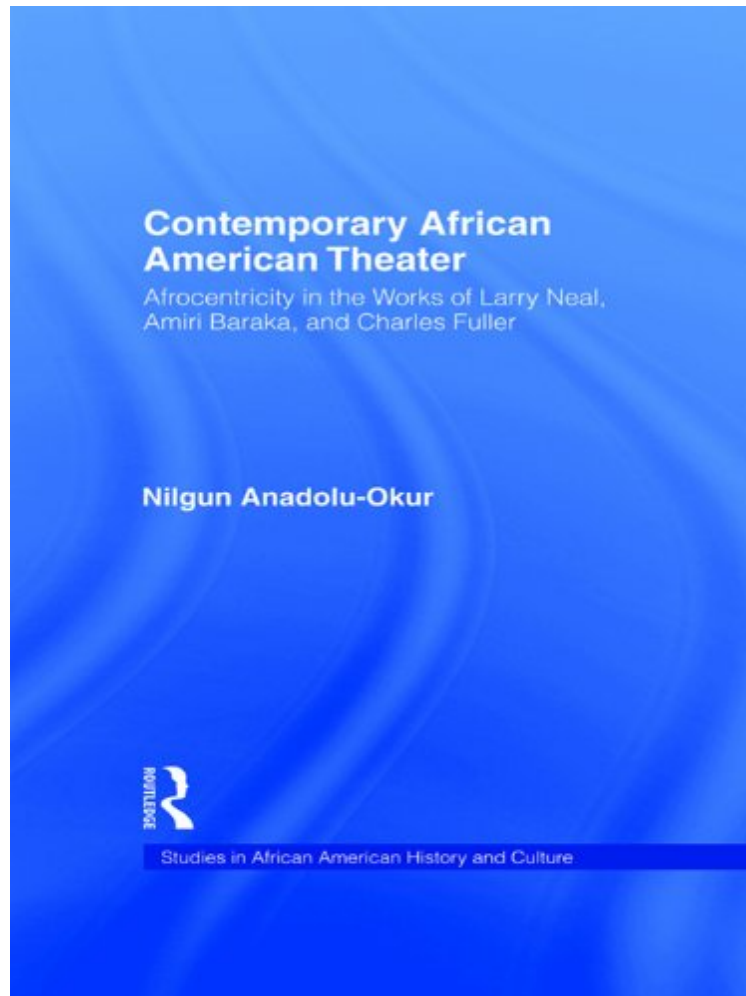


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Contemporary African American Theater: Afrocentricity in the Works of Larry Neal, Amiri Baraka, and Charles Fuller (Studies in African American History and Culture)

Nilgun Anadolu-Okur

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Brilliant and AudaciousBy NatalieThis book is written with passion and brilliance. Being one of the most comprehensive books about contemporary African American Theater, the author

has shown her distinction in analyzing the Afrocentric idea and added ten steps to critique the plays by Larry Neal, Amiri Baraka and Charles Fuller. Written with an artistic vision, through a theoretical approach, the text is made accessible to readers, both academic and non-academic. Through Anadolu-Okur's meticulous investigation of plays, poetry, and selected narratives by three major African American authors, a new and daring perspective has been added to the narrative of the Black Arts Movement, altering conventional notions, and exclusive strategies within American literature.

The Black Arts Movement was sparked by the Civil Rights movement and the urge to produce and revitalize functional, realistic, and holistic symbols to express African American creativity. When Larry Neal began his quest for a new dramatic form to epitomize African American self-determination he laid the foundation upon which his friends and compatriots-Amiri Baraka and Charles Fuller-would build. Expressing their individual protests through their writings, these artists soon united in their attack against Eurocentrism, which traditionally minimized or neglected the roles played by Africans and African Americans on the world stage. Their writings signaled a radical change in the form and content of African American writing, particularly drama. In this insightful examination of African American cultural history, the author explores the heart of the dramatic imagination of African Americans during the turbulent years of the Civil Rights and Black Power movements. The analysis of the works of these three important dramatists reveals the roots of an Afrocentric approach to the theater, and introduces a new methodology for exploring Afrocentrism that is particularly suited to classes in African American drama and literature.?

An important and essential, in-depth examination of Afro-American cultural history. ndash;Internet Bookwatch