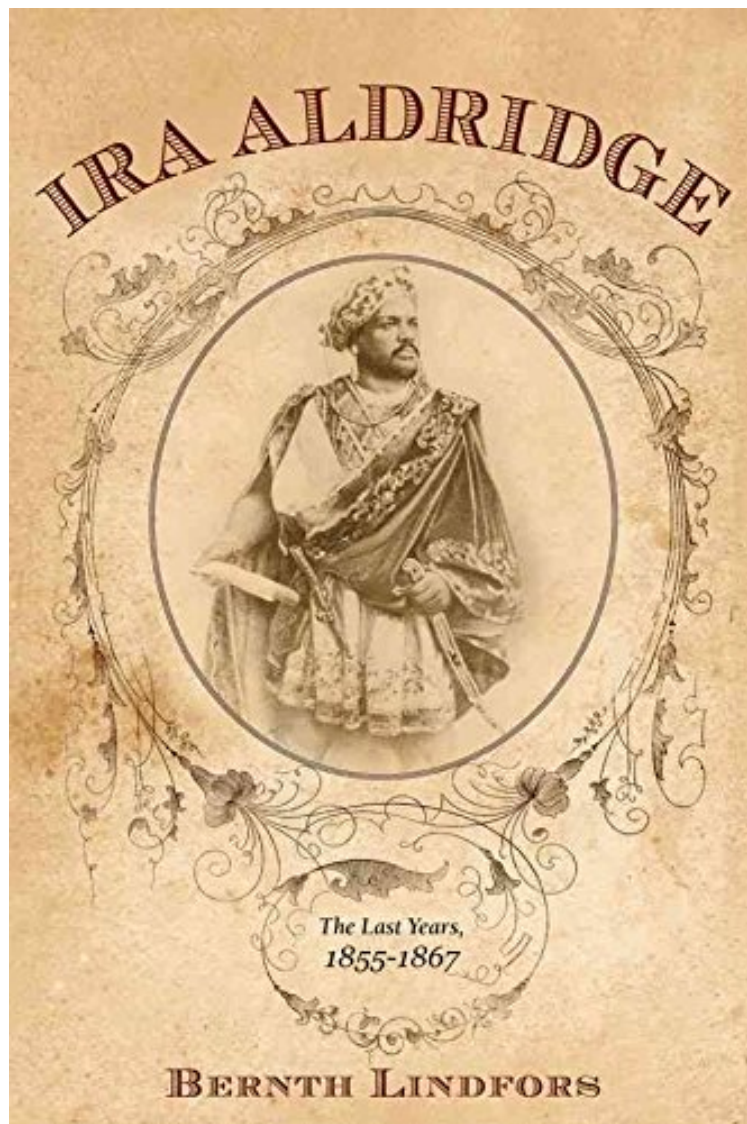


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Ira Aldridge: The Last Years, 1855-1867 (Rochester Studies in African History and the Diaspora)

Bernth Lindfors

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Bernth Lindfors : Ira Aldridge: The Last Years, 1855-1867 (Rochester Studies in African History and the Diaspora) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ira Aldridge: The Last Years, 1855-1867 (Rochester Studies in African History and the Diaspora):

Ira Aldridge *The Last Years, 1855-1867*, the fourth volume of Bernth Lindfors's definitive biography, places on record Aldridge's remarkable achievements and experiences in the final phase of his life, when he performed at theaters throughout Europe. His first Continental tour in 1852-1855 had been a spectacular success, and though he returned to Britain periodically afterwards, he spent much of the remainder of his career entertaining audiences in central and eastern Europe, mainly in Ukraine and Russia. His Shakespearean performances in St. Petersburg in 1858 and Moscow in 1862 were among his greatest triumphs and led to numerous appearances elsewhere in provincial cities and towns. During his forty-three years on stage in Europe, Ira Aldridge traveled more widely and won more honors, decorations, and awards than any other actor of his day. He is remembered not only as a talented thespian but also as a very visible representative of his race, someone who changed European perceptions of black people through the sheer brilliance of his artistry on stage. And by doing so, he helped to humanize the image of Africans and their descendants in Europe at an important transitional moment in history, when the movement to abolish slavery was gathering force and winning international acceptance. Bernth Lindfors is Professor Emeritus of English and African literatures at the University of Texas at Austin.

Winner of the 2012 Errol Hill Award, given by the American Society for Theatre Research for outstanding scholarship in African American theater, drama, and/or performance studies. A work of monumental scholarship. *AFRICAN THEATRE* A meticulously researched and exhaustively detailed biography. *E3W REVIEW OF BOOKS* A meticulously researched account...handsomely produced. *TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT* Bernth Lindfors's Aldridge series is a breathtaking and ambitious project of both superlative scholarship and the utmost historical importance, written in a precise, fluent, and charming style that is straightforward and authoritative. In *Ira Aldridge: Performing Shakespeare in Europe, 1852-1855*, Lindfors provides much new information on topics such as Aldridge's character, acting style, use of gesture and voice, performance strategies, and ideological disposition that will become anchoring reference points for future scholarship. --Colin Chambers, author of *Black and Asian Theatre in Britain: A History* Recommended. *CHOICE* Bernth Lindfors's Aldridge series is a breathtaking and ambitious project of both superlative scholarship and the utmost historical importance, written in a precise, fluent, and charming style that is straightforward and authoritative. In *Ira Aldridge: Performing Shakespeare in Europe, 1852-1855*, Lindfors provides much new information on topics such as Aldridge's character, acting style, use of gesture and voice, performance strategies, and ideological disposition that will become anchoring reference points for future scholarship. --Colin Chambers, author of *Black and Asian Theatre in Britain: A History* Winner of the Theatre Library Association's 2015 George Freedley Award Special Jury Prize Lindfors's four-volume biography is destined to become the standard life of Aldridge, without equal in the future. Highly recommended. *CHOICE* With *Ira Aldridge The Last Years, 1855-1867*, Bernth Lindfors concludes what will surely remain the definitive biography of the great nineteenth-century African American actor, Ira Aldridge, for many a decade ... Through an exhaustive search of local reviews and commentary he is able not only to follow Aldridge on his travels, but also to provide a wide range of observations on the actor's technique and artistic success. *RESEARCH IN AFRICAN LITERATURE* Winner of the Theatre Library Association's 2015 George Freedley Award Special Jury Prize Lindfors's four-volume biography is destined to become the standard life of Aldridge, without equal in the future. Highly recommended. *CHOICE* Through his thorough mining of a vast array of European archives, Lindfors surpasses all previous studies in recounting the actions of, and wildly contradictory viewpoints towards, this seminal figure ... his absolute mastery of the sources and deep understanding of Aldridge and the period lead to probing insights. *THEATRE JOURNAL* With *Ira Aldridge The Last Years, 1855-1867*, Bernth Lindfors concludes what will surely remain the definitive biography of the great nineteenth-century African American actor, Ira Aldridge, for many a decade ... Through an exhaustive search of local reviews and commentary he is able not only to follow Aldridge on his travels, but also to provide a wide range of observations on the actor's technique and artistic success. *RESEARCH IN AFRICAN LITERATURE* Winner of the Theatre Library Association's 2015 George Freedley Award Special Jury Prize Lindfors's four-volume biography is destined to become the standard life of Aldridge, without equal in the future. Highly recommended. *CHOICE* About the Author Bernth Lindfors is professor emeritus of English and African literatures at the University of Texas at Austin.