

Judson Poets' Theatre Productions – 1961 to 1981

Following is a listing of plays presented by Judson Poets' Theater from 1961 to 1981. This list is based on files from the Judson archives which are now part of the [The Fales Library and Special Collections](#) at NYU.

Productions were generally (but not always) presented over three consecutive weekends. This is our first attempt (in late 2008) at presenting a complete list. We acknowledge that there may be omissions and mistakes. Please help us. If you have additional information please contact info@judson.org

We would like to acknowledge and thank the Village Voice for information about the Obie Awards. In many cases the Obie Award was presented to the Off-Broadway production rather than the original production presented by the Judson Poets' Theater. They are included here to give an idea of the importance of the work being created and presented.

First Perf.	Title	Author(s)	Director
Nov. 18, 1961	"The Great American Desert"	Joel Oppenheimer	Lawrence Kornfeld
Nov. 18, 1961	"Breasts of Tiresias"	Guillaume Appollinaire music by Jackson MacLow	Robert Nichols
Jan. 11, 1962	"The Contest"	Ursule Molinaro	Lawrence Kornfeld
Jan. 11, 1962	"Deep Evil"	Howard Hart, music by Don Heckman	Charles Creasap
Jan. 11, 1962	"Second Shepherd's Play"	translated by Robert Nichols	Al Carmines
March 3, 1962	"The In Out"	Vincent Ferrini, music by Charles Adams and Carmen Moore	Robert Nichols
March 3, 1962	"The Reservation"	Martin Halpern	Ellis Santone
March 3, 1962	"Inroads Rebuff'd or The Disdainful Evacuation"	Dick Higgins	
May 8, 1962	"The Life of Man"		
"The Life of Man" was co-produced with The Reverends' Repertoire Co.			
May 24, 1962	"The Women at the Tomb"	Michel de Ghelderode	Ellis Santone
May 24, 1962	"Jourmad"	Derek Walcott	Lawrence Kornfeld
Aug. 24, 1962	"Vaudeville Skit"	George Dennison, music by Al Carmines	Remy Charlip (?) Lawrence Kornfeld (?)
Aug 24, 1962	"The Executives"	C.V.J. Anderson	Peter Feldman
Oct. 25, 1962	"The Devil's Mother"	Spencer Holst	Leonard Hicks
Oct. 25, 1962	"Malcauchon"	Derek Walcott	Lawrence Kornfeld
Dec. 14, 1962	"The Nativity Plays of the York Mysteries"	adapted by George Dennison	Lawrence Kornfeld
Jan. 25, 1963	"Miss Right"	Joel Oppenheimer, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Jan. 25, 1963	"God is My Ram"	Andrew Susac	Martin Bard
March 21, 1963	"Murder Cake"	Dianne Di Prima	James Waring
March 21, 1963	"Service for Joseph Axminister"	George Dennison	Lawrence Kornfeld
April 4, 1963	"Masks of Angels"	Notis Peryalis	John Chace
June 13, 1963	"The Decapitated Taxi"	Robert Nichols	Robert Nichols

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June 13, 1963	"The Wax Engine"	Robert Nichols and Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
July 26, 1963	"The Birthday"	Paul Goodman, music by Al Carmines	Al Carmines
July 26, 1963	"Hagar and Ishmael"	Paul Goodman	Lawrence Kornfeld
Sept. 19, 1963	"What Happened"	Gertrude Stein and Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Al Carmines and Lawrence Kornfeld both won an Obie Award for "What Happened".			
Sept. 19, 1963	"Asphodel, in Hell's Despite"	John Weiners, music by John Herbert McDowell	designed by Andy Warhol directed by Jerry Benjamin
Oct. 17, 1963	"Poet's Vaudeville"	Diane Di Prima, music by John Herbert McDowell	James Waring
Nov. 28, 1963	"Bust of a Lunatic"	Donald Kvares	Maralyn Chriss and Al Carmines
Nov. 28, 1963	"Hurrah, It's Lewis Carroll Day"	Dan Katzman, music by John Herbert McDowell	Lawrence Kornfeld
The first performance of "Bust of Lunatic" and "Hurrah, It's Lewis Carroll Day" was delayed a week because of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.			
Jan. 10, 1964	"Pantagleise"	Michel de Ghelderode, music by Al Carmines	Larry Loonin
Jan. 10, 1964	"The Old Tune"	Robert Pinget,(translated by Samuel Becket), music by Al Carmines	Peter Feldman
March 20, 1964	"Home Movies"	Rosalyn Drexler, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
March 20, 1964	"The Bitch of Waverly Place"	Arthur Sainer, music by Paul Knoff	Stephen Aaron
April 22, 1964	"Simeon and Joseph"		
April 22, 1964	"The Judgement"		
July 10, 1964	"Leonce and Lena"	Georg Buchner, music by Hector Berlioz	Lawrence Kornfeld
July 10, 1964	"Patter for a Soft Shoe Dance"	George Dennison, music by Al Carmines	Al Carmines
"Patter for a Soft Shoe Dance" was co-produced with the Pocket Theater.			
Sept. 18, 1964	"The Hundred and First"	Kenneth Cameron	Larry Loonin
Sept. 18, 1964	"Three Thousand Red Ants"	Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Rilke W. Stevens (?)	Lawrence Sacharow
Sept. 24, 1964	"For Madeleine Renaud"	composite of Ranier Maria Rilke, Wallace Stevens, Emily Dickenson, W.A. Moxart, Ralph Humphrey, Aileen Passloff, Lawrence Kornfeld	Lawrence Kornfeld

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Oct. 30, 1964	"Central Park Bench #33 Flight 20"	Cecilia Prada, music by John Herbert McDowell	Peter Feldman
Oct. 30, 1964	"The Sightseer"	Tom LaBar	Al Carmines
Dec. 19, 1964	"Sing Ho for a Bear"	R. Sargent and Lawrence Kornfeld, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
In 1964 Rosalyn Drexler received an Obie Award for Distinguished Plays for "Home Movies".			
In 1964 Lawrence Kornfeld won an Obie Award for Distinguished Direction of "What Happened".			
In 1964 Judson Poets' Theatre won an Obie Award for Best Production (musical) for "What Happened".			
In 1964 Al Carmines won an Obie Award for Best Music for "Home Movies" and "What Happened"			
In 1964 Judson Memorial Church received a Special Citation Obie Award for its sponsorship of experiment and experimenters in the performing arts, through the Judson Poets' Theatre and the Judson Dance Theatre.			
Feb. 12, 1965	"The String Game"	Rochelle Owens, songs by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Feb. 12, 1965	"Lesson in Understanding"	Bertolt Brecht (translated by Gerhard Nelhaus)	George Wljasik
April 9, 1965	"Promenade"	Maria Irene Fornès, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
In 1965 Maria Irene Fornès won an Obie Award for Distinguished Plays for "Promenade" and "The Successful Life of Three"			
April 9, 1965	"Devices"	Kenneth H. Brown"	Lawrence Kornfeld
May 22, 1965	"Street Plays"		
June 4, 1965	"Harmony"	George Dennison, music by Peter Lewis	Lawrence Kornfeld
June 4, 1965	"Nice Place You Got Here"	Richard Falcone	Al Carmines
June 4, 1965	"Three Sisters Who Are Not Sisters"	Gertrude Stein, music by John Herbert McDowell	Michael Smith
Summer 1965	"The Sheep and the Cheapskate"		
Summer 1965	"Remember the Thirties"		
The program during the summer of 1965 was co-produced with the El-Dorado Players			
Sept. 17, 1965	"Istanboul"	Rochelle Owens, music by Teiji Ito	Lawrence Kornfeld
Sept. 17, 1965	"The Monster"	Richard Falcone, music by Al Carmines	Al Carmines
Oct. 29, 1965	"Private Potato Patch of Greta Garbo"	J. Roy Sullivan, music by Al Carmines	Peter Feldman
Oct. 29, 1965	"You're as Old as Your Arteries"	Alex Kemeny, music by Joe Raposo	Jacques Levy
Dec. 10, 1965	"Play I, Play II, Play III"	Gertrude Stein	Lawrence Kornfeld
Dec. 10, 1965	"A Beautiful Day" (seven poem plays)	Ruth Krauss, music by Al Carmines	Remy Charlip
Jan. 21, 1966	"Red Cross"	Sam Shepard	Jacque Levy
In 1966 Sam Shepard won an Obie for Distinguished Plays for "Chicago," "Icarus's Mother," and "Red Cross"			

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In 1966 Florence Tarlow won an Obie Award for Distinguished Performances in "Istanbul," "Red Cross," and "A Beautiful Day"			
Jan. 21, 1966	"Antigone"	Sophocles (translation and adaptation by Theodore Stincheum), music by Alan Stout	Theodore Stincheum
March 4, 1966	"Pomegranada"	H.M. Koutoukas, music by Al Carmines	Al Carmines
March 4, 1966	"After Closing"	Roy Martz, music by John Herbert McDowell	Lawrence Sacharow
April 22, 1966	"The Pelican"	August Strindberg, (translated by Evert Springhorn)	Lawrence Kornfeld
April 22, 1966	"Hector the Heroic!"	Mark Zalk, music by Robert Cosmos Savage	Jacques Levy
"Hector the Heroic!" was presented in cooperation with The Open Theatre			
"Judson Revivals" (listed below) were presented as a benefit for Judson Memorial Church.			
May 22, 1966	"Patter for a Soft-Shoe Dance"	George Dennison, music by Al Carmines	Choreographed by Remy Charlip
May 22, 1966	"The Mind is a Muscle"		Choreographed by Yvonne Rainer
May 22, 1966	"March & Tambourine Dance"		Choreographed & danced by James Waring
May 22, 1966	"Home Movies"	Rosalyn Drexler, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
May 26, 1966	"Promenade"	Maria Irene Fornès, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
May 26, 1966	"Morning Raga with Yell Chair to Joyce"		Choreographed & danced by Arlene Rothlein
May 26, 1966	"April and December"		Choreographed by Remy Charlip, danced by Aileen Passloff
May 26, 1966	"What Happened"	Gertrude Stein, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
June 3, 1966	"Pomegranada"	H.M. Koutoukas, music by Al Carmines	Al Carmines
June 3, 1966	"Manu and the Fish"		Choreographed by Sabina Nordof, danced by Aileen Passloff and Remy Charlip
June 3, 1966	"What's the Big Idea 123"		Choreographed & danced by Katherine Litz
June 3, 1966	"A Beautiful Day"	Ruth Krauss, music by Al Carmines	Remy Charlip

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June 24, 1966	"An Audio-Visual"	Roberts Blossom	Roberts Blossom
June 24, 1966	"Revenge on Little Orphan Annie"	Howard Haut, music by John Herbert McDowell and Robert Cosmos Savage	Crystal Field
June 24, 1966	"Black Traveler"	choreographed and danced by Beverly Schmidt	
June 24, 1966	"La Luz"	Roberts Blossom	Roberts Blossom
Oct. 7, 1966	"The Lion"	Amos Kenan (translated by Rosette Lamont)	Peter Feldman
Oct. 7, 1966	"Scene from Street Play"	Robert Nichols	Al Carmines
Nov. 11, 1966	"The Love Cure"	Molière, (translated by John Wood), music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Nov. 11, 1966	"Tightrope Walker"	Maryat Lee	Foulkes Taylor
In 1966 H.M. Koutoukas received a special Obie Award for the style and energy of his assaults on the theatre in both playwrighting and production.			
Jan. 1, 1967	"San Francisco's Burning"	Helen Adams (with Pat Adams), music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Feb. 24, 1967	"What Happened"	Gertrude Stein and Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld (?)
Feb. 24, 1967	"Dances"		
March 12, 1967	"Gorilla Queen"	Ronald Tavel, music by Robert Cosmos Savage	Lawrence Kornfeld
April 21, 1967	"An Assessment at the Present Time as it Appears to Informed Sources in Manhattan"	Marc Kaminsky, music by John Herbert McDowell	Paul Zimet
April 21, 1967	"Five Dances"		
April 21, 1967	"Song of Songs"	adaptation and music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Remy Charlip
June 2, 1967	"Successful Life of Three"	Maria Irene Fornés, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
June 2, 1967	"Celebrations" ("Annunciations" and "Aunt Mary")	Maria Irene Fornés and Arlene Rothlein, music by Al Carmines	Maria Irene Fornés
Aug. 3, 1967	"Mask Dance"	Phoebe Neville	Judson Dance Theater
Aug. 3, 1967	"Recipe"	Elizabeth Keen	Judson Dance Theater
Aug. 3, 1967	"Leg Ballad"	Jim Hardy	Judson Dance Theater
Aug. 3, 1967	"Folie-a-deaux"	Edward Portnoy	Al Carmines
Aug. 31, 1967	"Cops Out"	Alex Kemeny	
Oct. 6, 1967	"Big Projects, I Suppose"	Alex Kemeny	
Oct. 6, 1967	"In Circles"	Gertrude Stein, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Gertrude Stein and Al Carmines won a 1968 Obie Award for Best Musical for "In Circles"			

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Nov. 22, 1967	"Arena of Lutetia"	Ron Tavel, music by Herbert Kaplan	Ronald Tavel
Dec. 13, 1967	"Sing Ho for a Bear"	Robert Sargent and Lawrence Kornfeld, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Jan. 26, 1968	"Untitled Play"	Lanford Wilson	Marshall Mason
Jan. 26, 1968	"Sayings of Mao Tse-Tung"	Mao Tse-Tung, music by Al Carmines	Remy Charlip
Feb. 5, 1968	"Celebration"		
Feb. 5, 1968	"Sayings of Mao Tse-Tung"	Mao Tse-Tung, music by Al Carmines	Remy Charlip
March 15, 1968	"The Line of Least Existence"	Rosalyn Drexler, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
May 3, 1968	"The Making of a Senseless Play"	Joseph Ponzi	Melvin Sokolsky and Joseph Ponzi
May 9, 1968	"Dr. Kheal"	Maria Irene Fornés	Remy Charlip
May 9, 1968	"Do Not Go Gentle"	Robert Upton	Al Carmines
Nov. 1, 1968	"Aristophanes' Peace"	translated by Tim Reynolds, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Nov. 22, 1968	"Arenas of Lutetia"	Ronald Tavel	Ronald Tavel
Dec. 22, 1968	"The Poor Little Match Girl"	Arthur Williams, music by Al Carmines	James Waring
"The Poor Little Match Girl" was produced in association with the New Gaiety American Operatta Company.			
Feb. 8, 1969	"Closer Since the Shooting"	Francine Winant	Ellis Santone
Feb. 8, 1969	"A Spike of Grain Bursts from the Lips"		Choreographed by Aileen Passloff
Feb. 8, 1969	"Salute"		Choreographed by James Waring
May 16, 1969	"Mid-Kingdom of Lions"	Robert Mason Faber	
June 20, 1969	"Chinese Dancer"	Roberts Blossom	Roberts Blossom (?)
June 20, 1969	"A Rehearsal"	Wendell Metzger (?)	
June 20, 1969	"The Eleventh Dynasty"	Wendell Metzger	
Oct. 29, 1969	"The Urban Crisis"	Al Carmines and Robert Nichols	Al Carmines and Robert Nichols
November 1969	"Three Women"		
November 1969	"Dracula"		James Waring (?)
Dec. 14, 1969	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
Feb. 20, 1970	"Little Burgundy" and "Manitoba"	Guy Gauthier	Russ Treyz (?)

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April 12, 1970	"About Time"	Theo Barnes, music by Al Carmines (one section used words from Ecclesiastes)	Theo BARNED directed the portion he wrote, but not the Ecclesiastes section
Sept. 11, 1970	"Dracula: Sabbat"	Leon Katz, music by John Herbert McDowell	Lawrence Kornfeld
Lawrence Kornfeld won a 1971 Obie Award for his direction of "Dracula: Sabbat"			
Oct. 18, 1970	"The Playful Tyrant"	Al Carmines (an adaptation of Camus' "Caligula")	Gus Solomons, Jr.
Dec. 13, 1970	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
Feb. 15, 1971	"Remembering - Songs from the Teens, Twenties and Thirties:"	Al Carmines and David Vaughan	
Feb. 18, 1971	"Three Words in No Time"	Lyon Phelps	Lyon Phelps
Feb. 18, 1971	"It's Got to be Black or White?"	Lyon Phelps	Lyon Phelps
Feb. 18, 1971	"Four Actors and a Restaurant"	Lyon Phelps	Lyon Phelps
Feb. 26, 1971	"The Journey of Snow White"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines, movement by Gus Solomons, Jr.
June 7, 1971	"The Sand Castle"	Warren Giarraputo	Clinton Atkinson
June 7, 1971	"Royal Flesh"	Mary Feldhaus-Weber	Clinton Atkinson and Deborah Jowitt
July 9, 1971	"Soundworks, Weed To Woman"	by Tom Kilpatrick and Eunice Muyskens (from their poetry)	Choreography by Sharon Chouinard
"Soundworks, Weed to Woman" was presented as a benefit for Judson Memorial Church			
Sept. 17, 1971	"Wanted"	David Epstein, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Nov. 19, 1971	"Joan"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines, staging consultant Gus Solomons, Jr.
Dec. 17, 1971	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
April 14, 1972	"A Look at the Fifties"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines
Sept. 29, 1972	"The Life of a Man"	Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
Nov. 10, 1972	"The Making of Americans"	Gertrude Stein (adaptation by Leon Katz), music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld

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Dec. 15, 1972	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
April 13, 1973	"The Faggot"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines, choreography by David Vaughn
Oct. 26, 1973	"Religion"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines
Dec. 14, 1973	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
March 22, 1974	"The Future"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines, choreography by Dan Wagoner
Oct. 11, 1974	"Listen to Me"	Gertrude Stein, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Lawrence Kornfeld won a 1974 Obie Award for his direction of "Listen to Me"			
Dec 18, 1974	"Christmas '74"	a pastiche of pop songs assembled by Al Carmines	
Feb. 28, 1975	"Sacred and Profane Love"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines, choreography by Katherine Litz
March 29, 1975	"The Journey of Snow White"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines, choreography by Katherine Litz
Oct. 10, 1975	"Why I Love New York"		Directed by Leonard (last name ?), choreography by Katherine Litz
Dec. 12, 1975	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
Jan. 8, 1976	"Three Evenings on a Revolving Stage"		
Feb. 20, 1976	"The Bonus Army"	David Epstein, music by Al Carmines	Jacques Levy
May 20, 1976	"Camp Meeting"	Al Carmines	Robert Herget
Nov. 5, 1976	"The Beast: A Meditation on Beauty"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines, movement by Dan Wagoner
Dec. 9, 1976	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
April 22, 1977	"A Manoir"	Gertrude Stein, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld

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Margaret Wright won at 1977 Obie Award for her performance in "A Manoir"			
Dec. 5, 1977	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
March 8, 1978	Newman Retrospective - Five Films by Robert Newman		
March 31, 1978	"Tatyana Repina"	Anton Chekov (translated by John Racin)	Arne Zaslove
Nov. 3, 1978	"In Praise of Death"	Al Carmines	Director & Choreographer - Dan Wagoner
Dec. 14, 1978	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
June 16, 1979	"A Summer Bouquet of Songs"	Al Carmines and David Vaughan	
Carmines and Vaughan 9th annual benefit			
July 27, 1979	"Someone's in the Kitchen with Dinah"	Al Carmines	Robert Herget
Oct. 26, 1979	"Dr. Faustus Lights the Lights"	Gertrude Stein, music by Al Carmines	Lawrence Kornfeld
Dec. 12, 1979	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
In 1979 Al Carmines won a an Obie Award for Sustained Achievement			
May 25, 1980	"A Nosegay of Old Songs"	Al Carmines and David Vaughan	
Oct. 3, 1980	"The Agony of Paul"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines
Dec. 12, 1980	"Christmas Rappings"	Bible passages, music by Al Carmines	Choreography by Dan Wagoner and David Vaughn
March 20, 1981	"T.S. Eliot: Midwinter Vigilante"	Al Carmines	Al Carmines