



Spectacle of Empire: Marc Lescarbot's Theatre of Neptune in New France

By Jerry Wasserman

Talon Books, Canada, Canada, 2006. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 400th Anniversary ed.. 223 x 157 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. 2006 marked the 400th anniversary of a major theatrical event in the history of North American drama. The Theatre of Neptune in New France by lawyer, poet and historian Marc Lescarbot was a masque of welcome performed on the Bay of Fundy by members of the tiny French colony of Port Royal on November 14, 1606. It celebrated the return of the ship bearing the Sieur de Poutrincourt and navigator-explorer Samuel de Champlain from their travels along the coastline as far south as Cape Cod in search of a more temperate site for the colony. It is a paean to empire, a thanksgiving for survival and an extraordinary theatrical spectacle in a new world peopled by Native inhabitants who are represented in it as both characters and audience. Arguably the first American play, it has also been called a significant entry-point of Western cultural hegemony, sparking political activists to disrupt the re-enactment planned for its four hundredth anniversary celebration. This new edition includes the original French script along with its long out-of-print English translations by American historical preservationist Harriette...



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Find many great new & used options and get the best deals for *Spectacle of Empire: Marc Lescarbot's Theatre of Neptune in New France* by Jerry Wasserman (Paperback, 2006) at the best online prices at eBay! Free delivery for many products! Jerry Wasserman is a professor of English and theater at the University of British Columbia. He currently reviews theater for the Vancouver Province and his popular Web site vancouverplays.com. Born in Vervins, France, Marc Lescarbot (ca. 1570-1642) documented life in the first European settlements in Canada and is known for introducing theater to North America. Country of Publication. Canada. This essay examines the role of performance practices in the making of colonial history through an analysis of the first French-language theater piece staged in the New World, Marc Lescarbot's *Théâtre de Neptune* (1606). The form of performance in this work offers a radically different way of crafting and engaging with history, simultaneously "restoring" the past via reenactment in the present and implying the possibility of future reiterations. Lescarbot's script presents a useful case study of performance's challenges to more traditional configurations of literary and... In the seventeenth century, John Kerrigan reminds us, "models of empire did not always turn on monarchy." Arguably the first North American play, this edition includes the original French script of Marc Lescarbot's *Theatre of Neptune*. Books related to *Spectacle of Empire*. Skip this list. *The Oak Island Mystery, Solved!* Joy A. Steele. \$8.69. The List. Jennifer Tremblay. Introduction: Marc Lescarbot and the Spectacle of Empire. A Note on the Texts. *Le Théâtre de Neptune en la Nouvelle-France* by Marc Lescarbot (1606). *The Theatre of Neptune in New France* trans. Harriette Taber Richardson (1927). *The Theatre of Neptune in New France* trans. Eugene Benson and Renate Benson (1982). Introduction to *The Masque of Blackness: The Eloquence of Masques, the Spectacle of State, The Masque of Blackness*. *The Masque of Blackness* by Ben Jonson (1605). Bibliography. Illustrations. 1. Exterior view of the reconstructed Port Royal Habitation. 2. The Theatre of Neptune by Charles