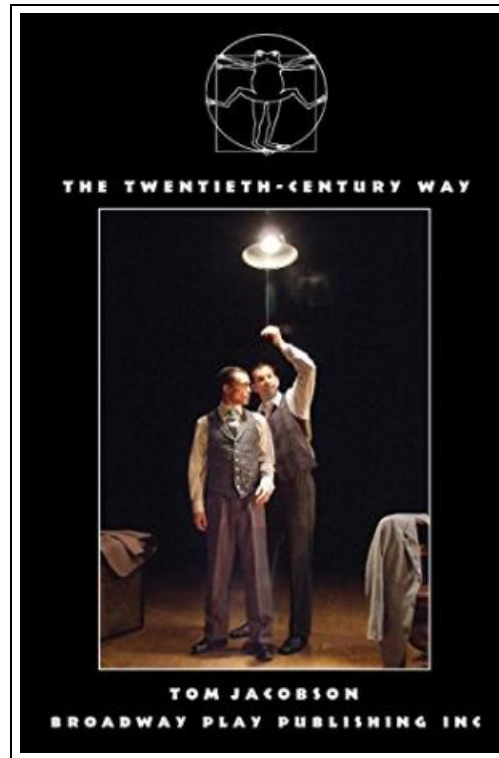


The Twentieth-Century Way (Paperback)



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Reviews

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THE TWENTIETH-CENTURY WAY (PAPERBACK)

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Broadway Play Publishing Inc, 2012. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The true story of two actors who hired themselves out to the Long Beach Police Department in 1914 to entrap social vagrants in public restrooms. Thirty-one men were arrested, and the ensuing scandal led to an ordinance against oral sodomy in California. Tom Jacobson s exceptional THE TWENTIETH-CENTURY WAY . is meta-theatre - dense and accurate and mysterious. While obviously influenced by Genet and Stoppard - the costuming metaphor will remind you of Genet s THE MAIDS and aspects of Stoppard s JUMPERS - Jacobson is working a distinctly American vernacular, and his voice is ultimately his own. There s a lot of erotic tension in the piece, which tells a wordless story that not only informs the talk but turns us on, too. Jacobson s real strength as an artist is his willingness to let mystery be just that. -Hilton Als, The New Yorker Playwright Tom Jacobson is known for tackling challenging themes, and his latest effort - recounting a scandalous little-known chapter in Southern California history - is among his boldest. Not content to merely relate a fascinating milestone in gay-rights travails, Jacobson sets the stage for two versatile actors to explore multilayered ruminations on sexual identity, institutional corruption, the conscience of civil servants carrying out questionable duties, the mysteries of the acting craft, and more . Jacobson s intriguing script shrewdly mixes historical fact and fictionalization. The inventive play-within-a-play structure . The play takes a startling turn at the end, bringing Jacobson s central themes of role-playing, self-deception, and moral responsibility to a shattering conclusion. -Les Spindle, Backstage West . . playwright Tom Jacobson, who loves to tinker with history in surprising and ticklish ways, doesn t seem interested...

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