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Letters

TO THE EDITOR:

May I call attention to an error in the article by James V. Hatch, "200 Years of Black and White Drama"? In T-56, on p. 11, the last paragraph, reads, "**Earth** (1927) by Jo Em Basshe." The name of the dramatist is Em Jo Basshe. Em, who was a friend of mine, began by calling himself Em Jo; later, as a member of the New Playwrights Theatre, he added his mother's first name, Basshe. His name, originally, as I recall it, was Emanuel Jochelman.

I found Hatch's article, on the whole, a valuable summary. It is marred by overzealousness, as in its claim that black theatre is something different from (and presumably better than) any kind of white theatre. I have no doubt that the black experience is different from the white experience, but I fail to see any technical difference between white and black undramatic, anti-verbal, ritualist theatres. Black theatre is interesting enough without the need for all-out claims.

Mordecai Gorelik
Brooklyn, N.Y.

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