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**September 29, 2004**

### **PLAYING UNDERGROUND**

Stephen Bottoms' book *Playing Underground*, is the first comprehensive history of the roots of Off-Off Broadway. To celebrate the book, on Monday October 11 several founders of Off-Off-Broadway will be at The Drama Book Shop at 7 PM for a free event. The press release didn't say exactly what kind of event. I assume this will be a panel discussion. It will be followed at 7:45 by a book-signing and wine & cheese.

*Playing Underground* will be a definitive work on Off-Off-Broadway, offering a complete picture of an important but little-studied period in American theater.

This is a theater whose legacy is still felt today. Off-Off-Broadway groups such as the Living Theatre, La Mama, and Caffé Cino captured the spirit of nontraditional theater. Through interviews with dozens of the era's leading playwrights, performers, directors, and critics, Bottoms unearths a countercultural theater movement that was both influential and transforming.

Monday, October 11th at The Drama Book  
250 West 40th Street (between 7th & 8th Avenues)

7:00pm

Paul Foster - founder of La Mama

Walter Hadler - founder of Theatre Genesis

Robert Heide - Caffé Cino playwright

Lawrence Kornfeld - former resident director at Judson Poets' Theatre

Doric Wilson - first resident playwright of the Caffé Cino

and Stephen J. Bottoms, author of *Playing Underground*

7:45pm

Book-signing & Wine & Cheese

This event is free

Hosted by the New York Innovative Theatre Awards [www.nyitawards.com](http://www.nyitawards.com) .