R.U.R. was written by Karl Capek (pronounced Chop-ek) in 1920 during the short-lived Czechoslovakian independence following World War I. In the New York production of 1922 R.U.R. was praised by the critics as "a brilliant satiric melodrama of the mechanization of life..." It is interesting to note that "robot" is derived from the Czech word meaning worker. Today the word robot has gained international usage as a result of R.U.R.