MACMILLAN MODERN DRAMATISTS

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**EUGÈNE LABICHE
AND
GEORGES FEYDEAU**

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Contents

	<i>Editor's Preface</i>	vii
	<i>Preliminary Note</i>	ix
1	The Nineteenth Century: New Public, New Theatres, New Forms	1
2	Eugène Labiche and the Second Empire	12
3	Early Labiche: From Vaudeville to Comedy of Character	28
4	Later Labiche: Continuity and Renewal	54
5	Labiche on Stage	83
6	Georges Feydeau and the Belle Epoque	94
7	Fin de Siècle Feydeau: Early Brilliance	110
8	Twentieth-Century Feydeau: End of a Belle Epoque	129
9	Feydeau on Stage	149
10	Conclusion	161
	<i>Bibliography</i>	172
	<i>Index</i>	176

List of Plates

1. *Un Chapeau de paille d'Italie*, Comedie Française, 1938. Photo Lipnitzki-Viollet
2. *Le Voyage du M. Perrichon*, Comedie Française, 1966. Photo Lipnitzki-Viollet
3. *Doit-on le dire?*, Odéon, 1977. Photo Lipnitzki-Viollet
4. *Monsieur chasse*, Shiki Theatrical Company, Tokyo, 1974. Photo Junkichi Sekiguchi
5. *Un Fil à la patte*, Comedie Française, 1961. Photo Lipnitzki-Violet
6. *Le Dindon*, Comedie Française, 1961. Photo Lipnitzki-Viollet
7. *La Dame du chez Maxim*, Palais Royal, 1965. Photo Lipnitzki-Viollet
8. *La Puce à l'oreille*, Theatre Montparnasse. Photo Studio Bernard
9. *A Flea in Her Ear*, American Conservatory Theatre, 1968–9. Photo Hank Kranzler
10. *A Flea in Her Ear*, Shiki Theatrical Company, Tokyo. Photo Norihiko Matsumoto
11. *A Flea in Her Ear*, National Theatre, 1966. Photo Zoë Dominic

Editors' Preface

The *Macmillan Modern Dramatists* is an international series of introductions to major and significant nineteenth and twentieth century dramatists, movements and new forms of drama in Europe, Great Britain, America and new nations such as Nigeria and Trinidad. Besides new studies of great and influential dramatists of the past, the series includes volumes on contemporary authors, recent trends in the theatre and on many dramatists, such as writers of farce, who have created theatre 'classics' while being neglected by literary criticism. The volumes in the series devoted to individual dramatists include a biography, a survey of the plays, and detailed analysis of the most significant plays, along with discussion, where relevant, of the political, social, historical and theatrical context. The authors of the volumes, who are involved with theatre as playwrights, directors, actors, teachers and critics, are concerned with the plays as theatre and discuss such matters as performance, character interpretation and staging, along with themes and contexts.

Editor's Preface

Macmillan Modern Dramatists are written for people interested in modern theatre who prefer concise, intelligent studies of drama and dramatists, without jargon and an excess of footnotes.

BRUCE KING
ADELE KING

Preliminary Note

Titles of plays are given in French followed by a literal translation, then by the titles of published translations.

References to plays are by act and scene. In French practice a new scene begins with the entrance or exit of one or more characters.

References in the text to critical works listed in the Bibliography are by author's name, followed by a page number. If more than one work by the same author is listed, the first word of the title is also included in the reference.

Newspaper reviews are not listed in the Bibliography, since sufficient information to locate them is given immediately following the quotation in the text.