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MACMILLAN MODERN DRAMATISTS

J. M. Synge

Eugene Benson

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Plates 2(a), 2(b), 4(a), 4(b), 5(a), 5(b) and 6(b) are reproduced by courtesy of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin.

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E.B.

Abbreviations and Conventions

All quotations from Synge's published writings are taken from *J. M. Synge: Collected Works*, General Editor Robin Skelton, Volumes I-IV (Oxford University Press, 1962-8). References are included in the text and the following abbreviations have been used:

<i>Poems</i>	Vol. I, <i>Poems</i> , ed. Robin Skelton (1962).
<i>Prose</i>	Vol. II, <i>Prose</i> , ed. Alan Price (1966).
<i>Plays</i> I	Vol. III, <i>Plays</i> , Book 1, ed. Ann Saddlemyer (1968).
<i>Plays</i> II	Vol. IV. <i>Plays</i> , Book 2, ed. Ann Saddlemyer (1968).

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

TO
SIOBHAN MCKENNA
An Incomparable Pegeen Mike