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MACMILLAN MODERN DRAMATISTS

NEW GERMAN DRAMATISTS

A Study of Peter Handke,
Franz Xaver Kroetz,
Rainer Werner Fassbinder,
Heiner Müller,
Thomas Brasch,
Thomas Bernhard
and
Botho Strauss

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List of Plates

1. *Rotter* by Thomas Brasch. A scene from the premiere in 1977 directed by Christof Nel with sets by Karl Ernst Hermann.
Photo: Abisag Tüllman.
2. and 3. *Minetti* by Thomas Bernhard. Bernhard Minetti in the title role. Directed by Claus Peymann, Stuttgart, 1976.
Photo: Abisag Tüllman.
4. *Der Auftrag (The Mission)* by Heiner Müller with Jürgen Holz as Debuissou. Directed by Heiner Müller and Ginka Tscholakowa at the Theater im dritten Stock in East Berlin in 1981.
Photo: Willy Saeger.
5. *Gross und Klein (Big and Little)* by Botho Strauss. Edith Clever as Lotte. Directed by Peter Stein in Berlin in 1979.
Photo: Ruth Walz.
6. *Heimarbeit (Homework)* by Franz Xaver Kroetz from the premiere at the Werkraumtheater, Munich

in 1971. Directed by Horst Seide.

Photo: Hildegard Steinmetz.

7. and 8. *Die Wahl fürs Leben (The Choice for Life)* by Franz Xaver Kroetz at the Munich Theater Rechts der Isar, in 1980.
9. The set of *Nicht Fisch, Nicht Fleisch (Neither Fish nor Fowl)*. Directed by Peter Stein in Berlin in 1981. Photo: Ruth Walz.
10. *Kaspar* by Peter Handke. Directed by Peter Brook with the Centre International de Recherche Théâtrale. Presented in penal institutions on the outskirts of Paris in 1972. Photo: Nicolas Tikhomiroff.
11. *Ritt über den Bodensee (The Ride across Lake Constance)*. Directed by Claus Peymann and Wolfgang Wiens. Photo: Abisag Tüllman.
12. *Der anachronistische Zug (Procession of Anachronisms)* by Bertolt Brecht. Hanne Hiob Brecht in the background.

Note on translation

To facilitate the study of available texts in translation the standard published English versions of the plays have been quoted and are listed in the bibliography. All other translations are by the author.

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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.

To the memory of my mother Joan Cogan Calandra; and
to my father, Philip Calandra