

Contents

List of illustrations	vii
Acknowledgements	ix
Part I	
Life, politics and theory	1
1 Life, career and politics	3
2 <i>The function and practice of theatre: visions, theories and critical responses</i>	27
Part II	
Key plays	59
3 The family, gender and sexual relations	61
4 Time and the time plays	89
5 Work and visions of dystopia/utopia	107
Part III	
Key plays/productions	123
6 <i>The Good Companions</i>	125
7 <i>An Inspector Calls</i>	139

8	<i>Johnson Over Jordan</i>	164
	Afterword	180
	Appendix: London productions and revivals of J.B. Priestley plays 1931–59	184
	Notes	188
	Bibliography	194
	Index	204

Illustrations

1	J.B. Priestley: wartime broadcasting for the BBC	11
2	<i>Dangerous Corner</i> , Lyric Theatre, London, 1932	66
3	<i>Ever Since Paradise</i> , New Theatre, London, 1947	87
4	<i>They Came to a City</i> , The Globe, London, 1943	117
5	<i>The Good Companions</i> , His Majesty's Theatre, London, 1931	130
6	<i>The Good Companions</i> , film directed by Victor Saville, 1933	134
7	<i>An Inspector Calls</i> , directed by Alexander Tairov, Kamerny Theatre, Moscow, 1945	145
8	<i>An Inspector Calls</i> , directed by Alexander Tairov, Kamerny Theatre, Moscow, 1945	146
9	<i>An Inspector Calls</i> , directed by Alexander Tairov, Kamerny Theatre, Moscow, 1945	147
10	<i>An Inspector Calls</i> , film directed by Guy Hamilton, 1954	153
11	<i>An Inspector Calls</i> , directed by Stephen Daldry, National Theatre, London, 1992	160
12	<i>Johnson Over Jordan</i> (the nightclub scene), directed by Basil Dean, New Theatre, London, 1939	173
13	<i>Johnson Over Jordan</i> (Patrick Stewart as Robert Johnson), directed by Jude Kelly, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds, 2001	176
14	<i>Johnson Over Jordan</i> (the nightclub scene), directed by Jude Kelly, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds, 2001	178