

# CONTENTS



*Preface* vii

- |    |  |     |
|----|--|-----|
| 1  | French Comedy before 1630                                      | 1   |
| 2  | The Comedies of Pierre Corneille                               | 12  |
| 3  | Rotrou and Romantic Comedy                                     | 44  |
| 4  | Scarron and Burlesque Comedy                                   | 51  |
| 5  | Molière: Life and Theatrical Career                            | 85  |
| 6  | Molière's Comedy   | 102 |
| 7  | The Shadow of Molière  | 150 |
| 8  | The Cynical Generation: Dancourt, Regnard,<br>Dufresny, Lesage | 163 |
| 9  | Marivaux   | 194 |
| 10 | Bourgeois Comedy: Sentiment and Moralization                   | 214 |
| 11 | Beaumarchais   | 237 |
| 12 | Conclusion   | 256 |

*Notable Comedies 1552-1784* 272

*Complete List of Molière's Plays* 275

*Select Bibliography* 277

*Index* 285