

CONTENTS

<i>General Editor's Preface</i>	7
<i>Introduction</i>	8

Part One: *The Classical and Medieval Tradition*

PLATO (c. 350 BC), p. 25 – ARISTOTLE (c. 335–22 BC),
p. 27 – CICERO (55 BC), p. 28 – EVANTHIUS (4th c. AD),
p. 30 – DANTE ALIGHIERI (c. 1319), p. 31.

Part Two: *From the Renaissance to Bergson*

NICHOLAS UDALL (1552), p. 35 – SIR PHILIP SIDNEY (c.
1580), p. 35 – BEN JONSON (before 1637), p. 37 –
WILLIAM CONGREVE (1695), p. 38 – HENRY FIELDING
(1742), p. 42 – OLIVER GOLDSMITH (1773), p. 47 –
WILLIAM HAZLITT (1819), p. 51 – CHARLES LAMB
(1822), p. 53 – GEORGE MEREDITH (1877), p. 57 – HENRI
BERGSON (1899), p. 62.

Continued

Part Three: *Twentieth-Century Views*

1 The Traditions of Comedy

F.M. CORNFORD: 'The Ritual Origins of Comedy' (1914)	67
NORTHROP FRYE: The Argument of Comedy (1949)	74
WALTER KAISER: 'The Wisdom of the Fool' (1963)	85
MIKHAIL BAKHTIN: 'Comedy and Carnival Tradition' (1968)	95
IAN DONALDSON: Justice in the Stocks (1970)	103

2 Conceptions of Comic Form

R.S. CRANE: 'The Attenuation of Fear, Pity and Indignation in the Plot of <i>Tom Jones</i> ' (1952)	115
SUSANNE LANGER: The Comic Rhythm (1953)	124
FRIEDRICH DÜRRENMATT: 'Comedy and the Modern World' (1958)	131
ERIC BENTLEY: 'On the Other Side of Despair' (1964)	135
ELDER OLSON: 'The Comic Object' (1968)	151

<i>Select Bibliography</i>	157
<i>Notes on Contributors</i>	158
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	161
<i>Index</i>	162