## CONTENTS

	List of plates Preface	<i>page</i> ix xi
I	Introduction: The King's Threshold	I
	PART ONE: SHAKESPEARE'S ENGLAND	
2	A Superfluous Sort of Men: The rise and fall of the professional theatre	17
3	Astraea and Chrisoganus The development of the charismatic image of the monarch The Queen and the drama John Lyly	38
X	Kingship in Marlowe's plays	
4	Nation and Empire The historical drama as a national literature 'Henry V'	66
	'Cymbeline'	
	Ben Jonson 'Eastward Ho!' 'The Tempest'	
5	The Hidden King: Shakespeare's history plays	110
6	Ben Jonson Introductory	131
	Jonson's theory of the relationship between prince and poet The comical satires, 1599–1601 The court poet	
7	The Royal Pretenders: Ford's Perkin Warbeck and Massinger's Believe As You List	174

## PART TWO: YEATS'S IRELAND

8	Our Irish Theatre	191
	Cultural nationalism and the European theatre	
	The founding of an Irish theatre	
	Yeats and Shakespeare	
9	A Play-house in the Waste: George Moore and the Irish	
	theatre	212
10	Nothing is Concluded	220
	Sean O'Casey, Denis Johnston, and Brendan Behan	
	Retrospect	
	Notes	245
	Index	25