

AFTER IRELAND

*Writing the nation
from Beckett to the present*

DECLAN KIBERD



An Apollo Book

Contents

<i>Preface</i>	<i>ix</i>
1. Introduction: After Ireland?	1
2. Beckett's Inner Exile	13
<i>Interchapter – A Neutral Ireland?</i>	<i>25</i>
3. 'Gaeldom is Over': <i>The Bell</i>	29
4. A Talking Corpse? Sáirséal agus Dill	39
5. A Parrot in Ringsend: Máire Mhac an tSaoi	49
6. Growing Up Absurd: Edna O'Brien and <i>The Country Girls</i>	61
7. Frank O'Connor: A Mammy's Boy	83
<i>Interchapter – Secularization</i>	<i>91</i>
8. Richard Power and <i>The Hungry Grass</i>	95
<i>Interchapter – Emigration</i>	<i>103</i>
9. Emigration Once Again: Friel's <i>Philadelphia</i>	107
<i>Interchapter – Northern Troubles</i>	<i>125</i>
10. Seamus Heaney: The Death of Ritual and the Ritual of Death	129
<i>Interchapter – Europeanization</i>	<i>157</i>
11. The Art of Science: Banville's <i>Doctor Copernicus</i>	161

AFTER IRELAND

12.	The Double Vision of Michael Hartnett	187
13.	Brian Friel's <i>Faith Healer</i>	211
14.	Theatre as Opera: <i>The Gigli Concert</i>	231
15.	Frank McGuinness and <i>Observe the Sons</i>	249
16.	Derek Mahon's Lost Worlds	275
	<i>Interchapter – Irish Language</i>	287
17.	Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill: <i>Pharaoh's Daughter</i>	291
	<i>Interchapter – Women's Movement</i>	315
18.	Eavan Boland: <i>Outside History</i>	319
19.	John McGahern's <i>Amongst Women</i>	331
20.	Between First and Third World: Friel's <i>Lughnasa</i>	353
21.	Roddy Doyle: <i>Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha</i>	383
	<i>Interchapter – Peace Comes Dropping Slow</i>	395
22.	Seamus Deane: <i>Reading in the Dark</i>	399
23.	Reading Éilís Ní Dhuibhne	415
24.	Making History: Joseph O'Connor	419
25.	Fallen Nobility: McGahern's <i>Rising Sun</i>	429
26.	Conor McPherson: <i>The Seafarer</i>	443
27.	Claire Keegan: <i>Foster</i>	455
28.	Kate Thompson and <i>The New Policeman</i>	469
29.	Conclusion: Going Global?	481
	<i>Notes</i>	499
	<i>Index</i>	529