## Contents

Acknowledgements Preface		ix xi
	Theatrical Dimensions of the Dramatic Text	1
	Theatricality and Politics	11
	The Theater as an Institution	25
2	Henry VI, Part One	35
	Spectacles of Chaos	35
	From Ceremony to "Practice"	48
3	Henry VI, Part Two	56
	Madness and Butchery	56
	Savage Comedy and the Audience's Nightmare	66
4	Henry VI, Part Three	80
	The Law of the Scabbard	. 80
	Ritualizing Atrocity	89
5	Richard III	100
	The Actor's Audiences	100
	Faction and Providence	110
6	King John	123
	John and "The Arts of Fallacy"	123
	The Political Language of Excess	133
7	Paradox, Play, Politics	147
Notes		158
Index		176