
C O N T E N T S

Introduction , <i>by Martin Esslin</i>	1
Shakespeare's Riddle	7
The Author of Comedy , <i>or The Inspector General</i>	11
Ibsen Read Anew	31
Witkiewicz , <i>or The Dialectic of Anachronism</i>	61
On Gombrowicz	83
Ionesco , <i>or A Pregnant Death</i>	97
Noh , <i>or About Signs</i>	109
Bunraku and Kabuki , <i>or About Imitation</i>	117
The Icon of the Absurd	129
Why Should I Take Part in the Sacred Dance?	139
After Grotowski : <i>The End of the Impossible Theater</i>	147
The Theater of Essence : <i>Kantor and Brook</i>	159
Tadeusz Borowski : <i>A European Education</i>	167
A Cage in Search of a Bird	179
The Serpent's Sting	189
The Seriousness of Theater	207