

BERTOLT BRECHT

COLLECTED PLAYS • Volume 1

Edited by Ralph Manheim and John Willett

BAAL

DRUMS IN THE NIGHT

IN THE JUNGLE OF CITIES

THE LIFE OF EDWARD THE SECOND
OF ENGLAND

FIVE ONE-ACT PLAYS

A VINTAGE BOOK



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The Plays Of Bertolt Brecht

Bertolt Brecht



The Plays Of Bertolt Brecht:

A Guide To The Plays Of Bertolt Brecht Stephen Unwin, 2015-01-30 Stephen Unwin's *A Guide to the Plays of Bertolt Brecht* is an indispensable comprehensive and highly readable companion to the dramatic work of this challenging and rewarding writer. Besides providing detailed accounts of nineteen key plays, it explores their context and Brecht's dramatic theory to equip readers with a rich understanding of how Brecht's work was shaped by his times and by his evolving thinking about the function of theatre. Bertolt Brecht's work as a director, his critical and theoretical writing, and above all the remarkable plays that emerged from one of the most turbulent periods in history, have had a profound and lasting influence on theatre. Central to theatre studies courses and whose plays are frequently revived on stage, Brecht is nevertheless perceived as a difficult writer. This companion is divided into two sections: the first seven chapters outline the tumultuous historical, cultural, and theatrical context of Brecht's work. They explore his theatrical theory and provide an account of his approach to staging his plays, which informs an understanding of how they work in practice. The second section provides an analysis of nineteen plays in six chronological groupings, each prefaced by a brief sketch of Brecht's life and theatrical development in that period. For each play, Stephen Unwin offers a synopsis, a critical commentary, and an account of the work in performance. The book concludes with an examination of Brecht's legacy and a chronicle of his life and times. Written by experienced theatre director Stephen Unwin, this is the perfect companion to Brecht's plays and life for student and theatre practitioner alike.

Mother Courage and Her Children Bertolt Brecht, 2022-05-19 This new Student Edition featuring the classic John Willett translation of the play includes an introduction by Katherine Hollander which explores the following contexts: Thirty Years War 1618-1648, World War II, and exile; sources, influential figures such as Brecht, Margarete Steffin, Helene Weigel, and Karin Michaelis; themes: war, nature, capitalism; dramatic devices: epic theatre; production history and critical reception; academic debate: Marxist, feminist, and postmodernist. Further study: Widely regarded as Brecht's best work, *Mother Courage and her Children* was written in 1938-9 and received its premiere in Zurich in 1941. *Mother Courage*, a canteen woman serving with the Swedish Army during the Thirty Years War 1618-48, follows the army, selling provisions and liquor to the troops. Both her sons die in the war, and her dumb daughter Kattrin is mortally wounded as she beats a drum to warn the town of Halle of an impending attack. Yet all the while *Mother Courage* continues her travels with her wagon, indomitably businesslike, calculating how she can make material profit from the war and turn conflict into capital.

The Plays of Bertolt Brecht William Patrick Kenney, William Kenney, 1965 *Brecht Collected Plays: 5* Bertolt Brecht, 2015-03-09 Published by Methuen Drama, the collected dramatic works of Bertolt Brecht are presented in the most comprehensive and authoritative editions of Brecht's plays in the English language. The fifth volume in the *Brecht Collected Plays* series brings together two of Brecht's best-known and most frequently performed and studied plays, *Life of Galileo* and *Mother Courage and Her Children*. *Galileo*, which examines the conflict between free inquiry and official ideology, contains one

of Brecht's most human and complex central characters Temporarily silenced by the Inquisition's threat of torture and forced to abjure his theories publicly Galileo continues to work in private eventually smuggling his work out of the country As an examination of the problems that face not only the scientist but also the whole spirit of free inquiry when brought into conflict with the requirements of government or official ideology Life of Galileo has few equals Mother Courage is usually seen as Brecht's greatest work Remaining a powerful indictment of war and social injustice it is an epic drama set in the seventeenth century during the Thirty Years War The plot follows the resilient Mother Courage who survives by running a commissary business that profits from all sides As the war claims all of her children in turn the play poignantly demonstrates that no one can profit from the war without being subject to its terrible cost also The translations are ideal for both study and performance The volume is accompanied by a full introduction and notes by the series editor John Willett and includes Brecht's own notes and relevant texts as well as all the important textual variants Brecht Collected Plays: 1 Bertolt

Brecht, 2015-04-07 Published by Methuen Drama the collected dramatic works of Bertolt Brecht are presented in the most comprehensive and authoritative editions of Brecht's plays in the English language Volume One of Brecht's Collected Plays contains Brecht's first performed stage works Baal is inspired by Brecht's student life in Augsburg and follows the life of a young poet on the rocky road to inspiration Drums in the Night was written in response to Brecht's experience as a medical orderly in the aftermath of the First World War and In the Jungle of Cities set in Chicago covers the downfall of a family that has moved from the prairies to the jungle of the big city award winning in its day it was described by a leading German daily as the play that has given our time a new tone a new melody a new vision This volume also includes The Life of Edward II of England a ballad like adaptation of Marlowe's original and five one act plays The Beggar or the Dead Dog Driving Out The Devil Lux in Tenebris The Catch and A Respectable Wedding in which the bourgeois proceedings take a hilarious turn for the unseemly The translators are Jean Benedetti Eva Geiser and Ernest Borneman Richard Gr nberger Michael Hamburger Gerhard Nellhaus Peter Tegel and John Willett The translations are ideal for both study and performance The volume is accompanied by a full introduction and notes by the series editor John Willett and includes Brecht's own notes and relevant texts as well as all the important textual variants **Two Plays** Bertolt Brecht, 1983 **Fear and Misery of the Third**

Reich Bertolt Brecht, 2016-11-17 Brecht's series of twenty four interconnected playlets describe events which took place in ordinary German households in the 1930s They dramatise with clinical precision the suspicion and anxiety experienced by ordinary people particularly Jewish citizens as the power of Hitler grew Written in exile in Denmark and first staged in 1938 it was inspired in part by his recent trip to Moscow where he had been researching tasks for the anti Nazi effort This Student Edition features an extensive introduction and commentary and includes a chronology of the Brecht's life and work a synopsis of each playlet an introduction to the context of the play commentary on themes characters style and language a review of the play in performance notes on individual words and phrases in the text and questions for further study *The*

Theatre Of Bertolt Brecht John Willett, 1967 This study of Brecht's theatre from eight different aspects was first published in 1959 The book aims to explain the difficult aspects of his ideology and political leanings in a straightforward manner It traces his stylistic development as a playwright and stage director through each of his major plays and explains his evolving notion of epic theatre within the political and social climate of the 1920s Marxism Nazism and post war Communism

The Good Person Of Szechwan Bertolt Brecht, 2016-11-17 Brecht's dark dazzling world view makes an absolutely devastating impact The play is fuelled by the brilliant perception that everyone requires such a dual or split personality to survive Evening Standard Three gods come to earth hoping to discover one really good person No one can be found until they meet Shen Te a prostitute with a heart of gold Rewarded by the gods she gives up her profession and buys a tobacco shop but finds it is impossible to survive as a good person in a corrupt world without the support of her ruthless alter ego Shui Ta Brecht's parable of good and evil was first performed in 1943 and remains one of his most popular and frequently produced plays worldwide This Student Edition features an extensive introduction and commentary that includes a plot summary discussion of the context themes characters style and language as well as questions for further study and notes on words and phrases in the text It is the perfect edition for students of theatre and literature

Brecht On Theatre Bertolt Brecht, 2014-11-20 Brecht on Theatre is a seminal work that has remained the classic text for readers and students wanting a rich appreciation of the development of Brecht's thinking on theatre and aesthetics First published in 1964 and on reading lists ever since it has now been wholly revised re edited and expanded with additional texts illustrations and editorial material and new translations The resulting work is a far fuller and more accurate volume that will provide readers with a clearer and more rewarding understanding of Brecht's work and writings This updated third edition features Clearer layout and organisation of the text to facilitate study New translations of many of the Brechtian texts featured Over 40 new previously untranslated essays Essay titles now correspond to the German originals A revised selection of illustrations This selection of Bertolt Brecht's critical writing charts the development of his thinking on theatre and aesthetics over four decades The volume demonstrates how the theories of Epic Theatre and *Verfremdung* evolved and contains notes and essays on the staging of *The Threepenny Opera* *Mahagonny* *Mother Courage* *Puntilla Galileo* and many others of his plays Also included is *Short Organon for the Theatre* Brecht's most complete statement of his revolutionary philosophy of the theatre

Unveiling the Power of Verbal Artistry: An Psychological Sojourn through **The Plays Of Bertolt Brecht**

In a global inundated with displays and the cacophony of instantaneous interaction, the profound power and mental resonance of verbal art often fade in to obscurity, eclipsed by the continuous barrage of noise and distractions. Yet, located within the lyrical pages of **The Plays Of Bertolt Brecht**, a fascinating perform of literary elegance that pulses with raw thoughts, lies an remarkable trip waiting to be embarked upon. Composed by way of a virtuoso wordsmith, this magical opus courses readers on a mental odyssey, lightly revealing the latent possible and profound influence embedded within the intricate web of language. Within the heart-wrenching expanse of this evocative evaluation, we can embark upon an introspective exploration of the book is main styles, dissect their interesting publishing style, and immerse ourselves in the indelible effect it leaves upon the depths of readers souls.

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