



# Madness at the Theatre

*Femi Oyebo*

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**Madness at the Theatre** Femi Oyebode

Studies the theatrical representation of madness from the classical Greek period through to the 21st century.

Charts the changing portrayal of madness by the worlds great playwrights across the centuries.

In Greek tragedies acts of madness are described but unseen. Later, Shakespeare brought these acts to centre stage, exploring both real mental disintegration and comic madness.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, playwrights took inspiration from their own, or their families, mental illness and from psychiatric clinics.

Includes a focus on the work of Tennessee Williams, Harold Pinter and Ibsen.

Deals with an aspect of drama that speaks to the fears, prejudices and insights of the audience.

Related title

Mindreadings: Literature and Psychiatry, ISBN 9781904671602, from RCPsych Publications in 2009.

RCPsych Publications is the publishing arm of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (based in London, United Kingdom), which has been promoting excellence in mental health care since 1841. Produced by the same editorial team who publish *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, they sell books for both psychiatrists and other mental health professionals; and also many written for the general public. Their popular series include the *College Seminars Series*, the NICE mental health guidelines and the *Books Beyond Words* series for people with intellectual disabilities.

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Schizophrenia  
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