

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	9
Introduction	11
1. Arnold, Burke and the Celts	17
2. The Literary Myths of the Revival	28
3. Yeats and the Idea of Revolution	38
4. Synge and Heroism	51
5. Pearse: Writing and Chivalry	63
6. Joyce and Stephen: the Provincial Intellectual	75
7. Joyce and Nationalism	92
8. O'Casey and Yeats: Exemplary Dramatists	108
9. Joyce and Beckett	123
10. Thomas Kinsella: 'Nursed out of Wreckage'	135
11. John Montague: the Kingdom of the Dead	146
12. Derek Mahon: Freedom from History	156
13. Brian Friel: the Double Stage	166
14. Seamus Heaney: the Timorous and the Bold	174
Select Bibliography	187
Index	193