

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-33878-3 - Sartre: Literature and Theory  
Rhiannon Goldthorpe  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

*Cambridge Studies in French*

SARTRE:  
LITERATURE AND THEORY

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-33878-3 - Sartre: Literature and Theory  
Rhiannon Goldthorpe  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

*Cambridge Studies in French*

General editor: MALCOLM BOWIE

*Also in the series*

J. M. COCKING

*Proust. Collected Essays on the Writer and his Art*

LEO BERSANI

*The Death of Stéphane Mallarmé*

MARIAN HOBSON

*The Object of Art.*

*The Theory of Illusion in Eighteenth-Century France*

LEO SPITZER

*Essays on Seventeenth-Century French*

*Literature*, translated and  
edited by David Bellos

NORMAN BRYSON

*Tradition and Desire. From David to Delacroix*

A. MOSS

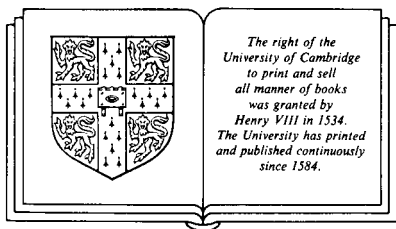
*Poetry and Fable. Studies in Mythological  
Narrative in Sixteenth-Century France*

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-33878-3 - Sartre: Literature and Theory  
Rhiannon Goldthorpe  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

# SARTRE: LITERATURE AND THEORY

*RHIANNON GOLDTHORPE*

*Fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford*



**CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS**

CAMBRIDGE  
LONDON NEW YORK NEW ROCHELLE  
MELBOURNE SYDNEY

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-33878-3 - Sartre: Literature and Theory  
Rhiannon Goldthorpe  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS  
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi

Cambridge University Press  
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)  
Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9780521338783](http://www.cambridge.org/9780521338783)

© Cambridge University Press 1984

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception  
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,  
no reproduction of any part may take place without the written  
permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1984  
First paperback edition 1986  
Re-issued in this digitally printed version 2009

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

*Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number: 83-24055*

ISBN 978-0-521-23791-8 hardback  
ISBN 978-0-521-33878-3 paperback

Cambridge University Press  
978-0-521-33878-3 - Sartre: Literature and Theory  
Rhiannon Goldthorpe  
Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

---

*For Siân and David*

## CONTENTS

<i>General editor's preface</i>	<i>page</i> viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
<i>Abbreviations</i>	x
Introduction	1
1 <i>La Nausée</i>	4
Reflection and facticity	4
Transcendence and intentionality	23
Writing and meaning	38
2 <i>Les Mouches</i> : Emotion and reflection	62
3 <i>Huis clos</i> : Distance and ambiguity	84
4 <i>Les Mains sales</i> : Words and deeds	97
5 <i>Les Séquestrés d'Altona</i> : Imagination and illusion	134
6 Commitment and writing	159
Sketch for a theory of commitment	159
A practical example: <i>L'Engagement de Mallarmé</i>	184
Postscript	198
<i>Notes</i>	203
<i>Works cited</i>	237
<i>Index</i>	241

## GENERAL EDITOR'S PREFACE

This series aims at providing a new forum for the discussion of major critical or scholarly topics within the field of French studies. It differs from most similar-seeming ventures in the degree of freedom which contributing authors are allowed and in the range of subjects covered. For the series is not concerned to promote any single area of academic specialisation or any single theoretical approach. Authors are invited to address themselves to *problems*, and to argue their solutions in whatever terms seem best able to produce an incisive and cogent account of the matter in hand. The search for such terms will sometimes involve the crossing of boundaries between familiar academic disciplines, or the calling of those boundaries into dispute. Most of the studies will be written especially for the series, although from time to time it will also provide new editions of outstanding works which were previously out of print, or originally published in languages other than English or French.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The first two parts of Chapter 1 and the whole of Chapter 3 first appeared in *French Studies* (vols xxii (1968), xxv (1971) and xxxiv (1980) respectively). An earlier version of Chapter 5 was published in the *Journal of the British Society for Phenomenology* (vol. iv (1973)). I am indebted to the editors of these journals (Professor Malcolm Bowie and Dr Wolfe Mays) for permission to use this material. A version of the third part of Chapter 1 was read to a colloquium on 'La Fiction de Sartre' at the University of Warwick in January 1981; Chapter 2 and the first part of Chapter 6 grew out of papers read to the Society of French Studies in March 1968 and March 1981. I am grateful to the organisers of those meetings for giving me the opportunity to present and discuss my views. The second section of Chapter 6 first appeared in *Baudelaire, Mallarmé, Valéry. New Essays in Honour of Lloyd Austin*, ed. Malcolm Bowie, Alison Fairlie and Alison Finch (Cambridge University Press, 1982). My thanks go to Professor Austin, and to the editors and publishers, for permission to reprint. I am also grateful to the Principal and Fellows of St Anne's College, Oxford, for a period of sabbatical leave which gave me time to write and rewrite.

It gives me particular pleasure to thank the following: Malcolm Bowie, for the generous encouragement and help which made this book possible, and John Goldthorpe, for his unfailing sense of proportion. Finally, I owe a long-standing debt of gratitude to Professor Ian Alexander, who first helped me to read Sartre, and whose teaching I recall with deep appreciation.



## ABBREVIATIONS

References to Sartre's works are given in the text, with the following abbreviated titles:

<i>CRD</i>	<i>Critique de la raison dialectique</i>
<i>EM</i>	<i>L'Engagement de Mallarmé</i>
<i>EN</i>	<i>L'Etre et le Néant</i>
<i>ETE</i>	<i>Esquisse d'une théorie des émotions</i>
<i>GM</i>	<i>La Grande Morale</i>
<i>IF</i>	<i>L'Idiot de la famille</i>
<i>Im.</i>	<i>L'Imaginaire</i>
<i>O.r.</i>	<i>Œuvres romanesques</i>
<i>SI-X</i>	<i>Situations, vols I to X</i>
<i>SG</i>	<i>Saint Genet, comédien et martyr</i>
<i>TE</i>	<i>La Transcendance de l'Ego</i>
<i>TS</i>	<i>Un Théâtre de situations</i>

When a sequence of references is given to the same text, the abbreviated title appears with the first reference only.