

# Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Preface</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiv
<b>1 Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Physical conditions</b>	<b>14</b>
The amphitheatre playhouses	14
The hall playhouses	26
Performing conditions	38
Auditorium behaviour	51
<b>3 Social composition</b>	<b>58</b>
Social classes in England	58
Social classes in London	64
Who went where	69
Different kinds of playgoer	85
<b>4 Mental composition</b>	<b>95</b>
The mental range	95
Audiences or spectators	102
Learned ears	116
Levels of awareness	124
Playgoer reactions	128
<b>5 The evolution of tastes</b>	<b>143</b>
The first paying playgoers (1567–87)	143
Tarlton's followers (1576–88)	150
Lyly's special appeal (1580–90)	158
Mass emotion and the Armada (1588–99)	161
Rule, religion and revenge (1588–99)	167
Current affairs (1588–1603)	170
Citizen staples and Juliet's rebellion (1588–1605)	176

## viii

*Contents*

The war of railing (1599–1609)	184
City comedy (1599–1614)	191
After 1609: the settled hierarchy	195
Beeston's cock and bull (1616–30)	202
The Blackfriars in the 1630s	209
Citizens in the last years (1630–42)	215
<b>Appendix 1: Playgoers 1567–1642</b>	224
<b>Appendix 2: References to playgoing</b>	247
<i>Notes</i>	302
<i>Select bibliography</i>	317
<i>Index</i>	329