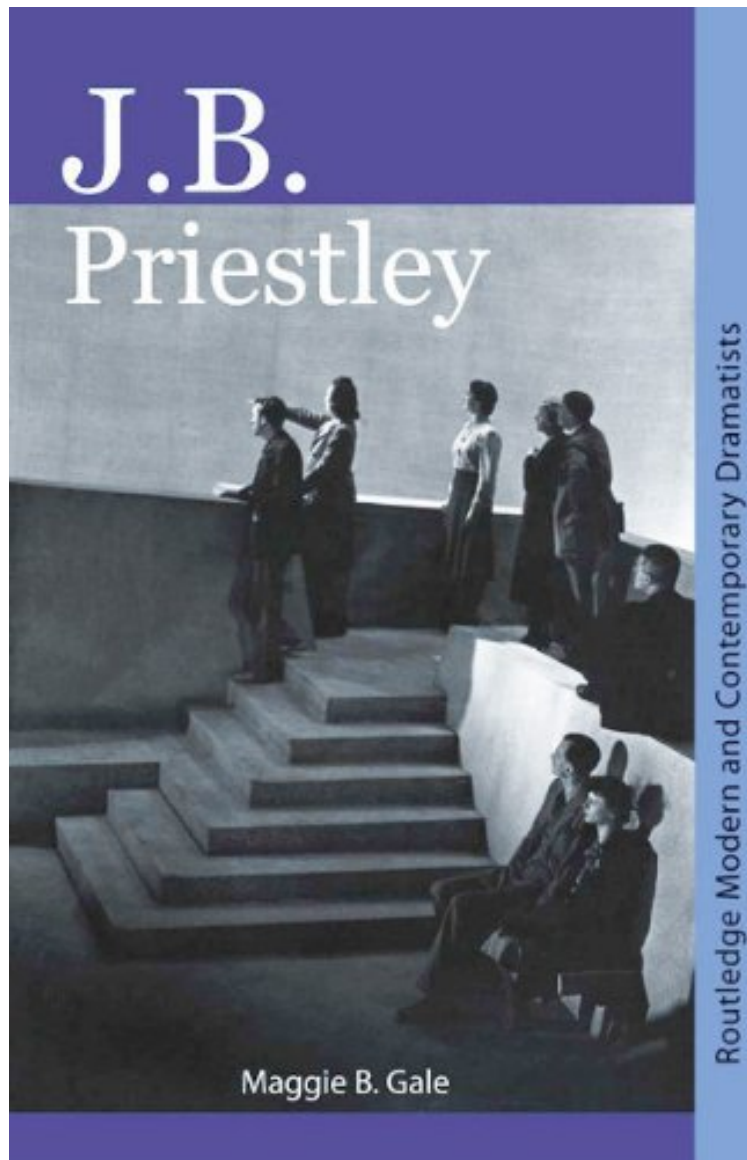


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## J.B. Priestley (Routledge Modern and Contemporary Dramatists)

*Maggie B. Gale*

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**Maggie B. Gale : J.B. Priestley (Routledge Modern and Contemporary Dramatists)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised J.B. Priestley (Routledge Modern and Contemporary Dramatists):

J. B. Priestley is the first book to provide a detailed and up to date analysis of the enormous contribution made by this playwright, novelist, journalist and critic to twentieth century British theatre. Priestley was often criticised for being

either too populist or too experimental and this study unpicks the contradictions of a playwright and theatre theorist popular with audiences but too often dismissed by critics; describing and analysing in detail not only his plays but also their specific historical and contemporary productions. Using a combination of archive, review and critical materials, the book re-locates Priestley as a theatre theorist of substance as well as a playwright who challenged theatre conventions and assumptions about audience expectations, at a time when theatre was considered both conservative and lacking in innovation.

About the Author Maggie Gale is joint Series Editor for Routledge Modern and Contemporary Dramatists, and Chair in Drama at the University of Manchester. She has published extensively on British inter-war theatre and has one previous Routledge publication: *West End Women: Women and the London Stage 1918-1962*.