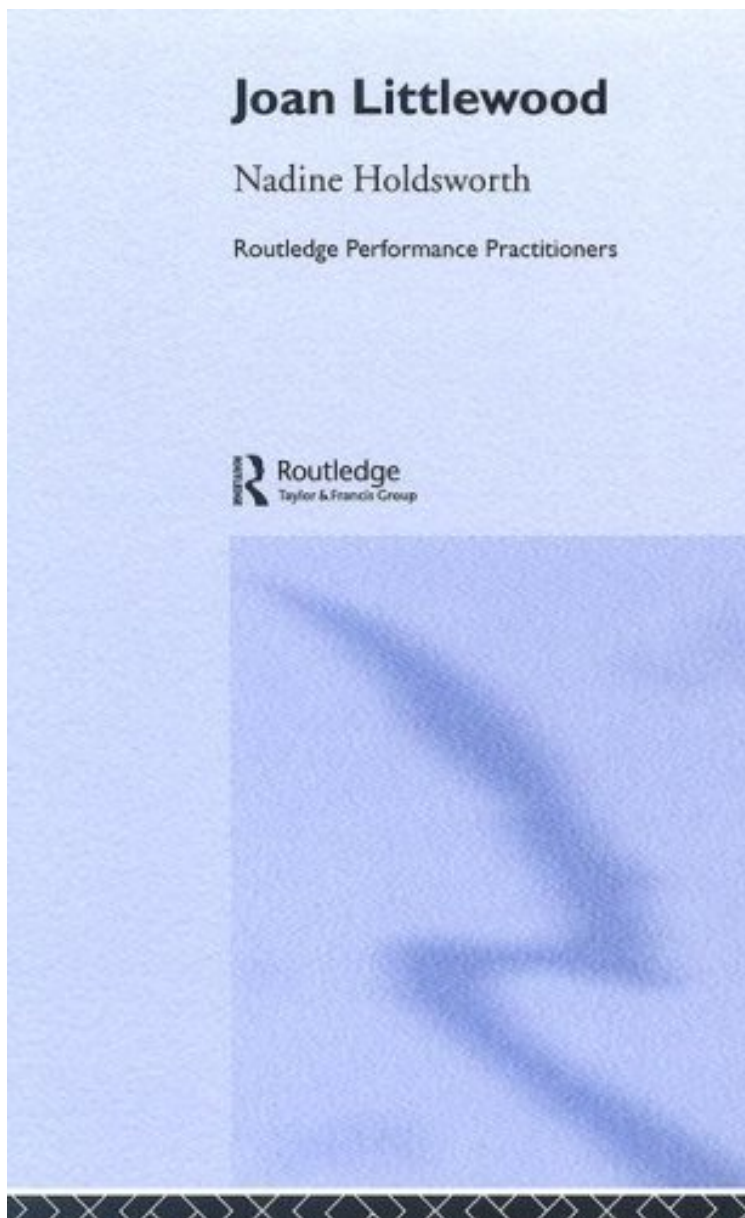


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## Joan Littlewood (Routledge Performance Practitioners)

*Nadine Holdsworth*

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**Nadine Holdsworth : Joan Littlewood (Routledge Performance Practitioners)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Joan Littlewood (Routledge Performance Practitioners):

The only book currently available on Joan Littlewood and her company, 'Theatre Workshop', this book explores the background to, and the work of a major influence on twentieth- and twenty-first-century performance. Part of the successful Routledge Performance Practitioners series, this book uses original archival material to explore Joan Littlewood — a theatrical and cultural innovator whose contributions to theatre made a huge impact on the way theatre was generated, rehearsed and presented during the twentieth century. This is the first book to combine: an overview of Littlewood's career in relation to the wider social, political and cultural context; an exploration of Littlewood's theatrical influences, approach to actor's training, belief in the creative ensemble, attitude to text, rehearsal methods and use of improvisation; a detailed case study of the origins, research, creative process and thinking behind Littlewood's most famous production, *Oh What a Lovely War*, and an assessment of its impact; a series of practical exercises designed to capture and illustrate the key approaches Littlewood used in the rehearsal room. As a first step towards critical understanding, and as an initial exploration before going on to further, primary research, Joan Littlewood is unbeatable value for today's student.