

FOREWORD BY THE SERIES EDITOR

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This series of monographs on *Australian Playwrights* has been compiled in conjunction with a series of video programmes entitled *Australian Playwrights Speak*. Both series have resulted from a pilot project funded by a Griffith University research grant in 1985.

The overall aim of the series is to contribute to the promotion, analysis and better understanding of Australian drama in Australia and overseas. Each monograph gives an overview of a particular playwright's life and work and a critical analysis of his/her plays, except for the present volume in which the playwright speaks himself.

This is the fourth monograph in the series. The first on *Louis Nowra* was edited by Veronica Kelly (1987). The second, entitled *Patrick White*, was written by May-Brit Akerholt (1988); and the third on *Jack Hibberd* by Paul McGillick (1988). Further books on/by the following authors are in preparation: STEPHEN SEWELL by John McCallum and DOROTHY HEWETT by Bill Dunstone.

The video programmes are all complete and available from the Australian Film Institute. Their aims are to let the playwrights speak themselves and to illustrate and personalise their work for better understanding, especially by overseas students. Unfortunately, there is no video programme on Patrick White, because we were unable to obtain an interview with him.

The books and video programmes may be used as a learning-teaching package, or independently from each other, at senior secondary and mainly tertiary levels, and by anyone interested in Australian drama and theatre.

I wish to thank the playwrights and authors for their co-operation and assistance in this project which would not have eventuated otherwise.

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