

## Table of Contents

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <b>Introduction</b>   | 7   |
| 1. Oh no! Not again . . . . .   | 7   |
| 2. Why Gombrowicz and Beckett . . . . .   | 11  |
| 3. Drama, Theatre and Narrative . . . . .   | 15  |
| 4. Performance and Narrative . . . . .  | 25  |
| 5. The Unnatural . . . . .  | 27  |
| 6. The Structure of This Study . . . . .  | 29  |
| <br><b>Chapter 1</b>  |     |
| <b>Dramatic Narratives – Witold Gombrowicz’s Three Novels</b>                     | 33  |
| 1.1. From Narrative to Drama . . . . .  | 33  |
| 1.1.1. “I feel a need to relate here” – preliminary remarks . . . . .             | 33  |
| 1.1.2. “I, a Polish writer, I, Gombrowicz” – on the narrators . . . . .           | 40  |
| 1.1.2.1. Witold in <i>Trans-Atlantyk</i> . . . . .                                | 40  |
| 1.1.2.2. Witold in <i>Pornografia</i> . . . . .                                   | 44  |
| 1.1.2.3. Witold in <i>Cosmos</i> . . . . .  | 48  |
| 1.1.3. Witold’s language – <i>gawęda</i> . . . . .                                | 51  |
| 1.1.3.1. “To the Devil, the Devil, the Devil,<br>the Devil, the Devil!” . . . . . | 52  |
| 1.1.3.2. “Hey, hey, hey, I can still see them” . . . . .                          | 62  |
| 1.1.3.3. “Heaven knows why” . . . . .   | 68  |
| 1.1.4. Levels . . . . .   | 85  |
| 1.2. Narrative as Drama . . . . .   | 102 |
| 1.2.1. The poet of form . . . . .   | 102 |
| 1.2.2. Narrative as drama . . . . .   | 116 |
| <br><b>Chapter 2</b>  |     |
| <b>Theatrical Narratives – Samuel Beckett’s Three Novels</b>                      | 135 |
| 2.1. From Narrative to Theatre . . . . .  | 135 |
| 2.1.1. Openings and preliminary remarks . . . . .                                 | 135 |
| 2.1.2. “I, Say I” – on the narrators . . . . .                                    | 137 |
| 2.1.2.1. Molloy . . . . .   | 141 |
| 2.1.2.2. Moran . . . . .  | 153 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| 2.1.2.3. Malone . . . . .  | 161 |
| 2.1.2.4. <i>The Unnamable</i> . . . . .  | 176 |
| 2.1.3. Narrative and monologue . . . . .                                       | 195 |
| 2.1.3.1. “Let me tell you this” – monologue in Molloy . . . . .                | 195 |
| 2.1.3.2. “I will tell you nothing” – monologue in Moran . . . . .              | 201 |
| 2.1.3.3. Monologue in Malone – writing fiction . . . . .                       | 204 |
| 2.1.3.4. “Whatever you fancy” –<br>monologue in <i>The Unnamable</i> . . . . . | 206 |
| 2.2. Narrative as Theatre . . . . .  | 210 |
| <b>Conclusions</b> . . . . .   | 227 |
| <b>Notes</b> . . . . .   | 235 |
| <b>Works Cited</b> . . . . .   | 281 |