

IVO DE FIGUEIREDO – IBSEN: THE MAN AND THE MASK

This book is an edited and abbreviated edition of my Norwegian two-volume biography of Ibsen, *Henrik Ibsen. The Man* (2006) and *Henrik Ibsen. The Mask* (2007). The abbreviation has been done partly by a general reworking of the entire text, partly by leaving out subjects which are likely to be of interest mainly to Norwegian readers, and partly by a strong simplification of the foot notes.

With regard to the footnotes I have taken out most references to primary sources – letters, diaries, etc. – but kept references with interesting elaborations and, not least, the ones which show my debt to other researchers. It's worth noticing that for literary reasons I do not discuss the works of other writers explicitly in the running text. For this reason it is crucial to draw the reader's attention to towards the footnotes, and in general emphasize my debt to the many years of labour on Ibsen's life and works that other writers have done. Among these, I would especially like to single out Tore Rem, who has been my main source for the reception of Ibsen in English speaking countries. Throughout I also point to the important perspectives on Ibsen that Toril Moi, Atle Kittang, Helge Rønning, Vigdis Ystad, Asbjørn Aarseth and Eivind Tjønneland have provided me with. The historical and cultural historical perspectives of Narve Fulsås and Kjetil Jacobsen have also been important. For other helpers, please consult the acknowledgments at the back of the book.

In the book's afterword I have included a few reflections on the view of history and literature, along with the main methodical considerations which form the foundation of my work. I have also kept the complete list of references to archives and literature, even though a part of these references have now been left out of the text.

Fredrikstad, 17. november 2008.

Ivo de Figueiredo

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