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Playing with citation

Perspectives on the theatrical work of Giraudoux and Yourcenar

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Abstract: Surprising and veiled similarities emerge on comparing the seemingly disparate works of Jean Giraudoux and Marguerite Yourcenar. With anachronism and irony, the two writers play freely with citations, which, between plagiarism and reference, make no secret of their original sources and borrowings. In this interplay of references that are direct and invented, anachronistic and parodic, the two writers establish complicity between themselves and their audience, and it is here that, paradoxically, each finds the source of their creativity.

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