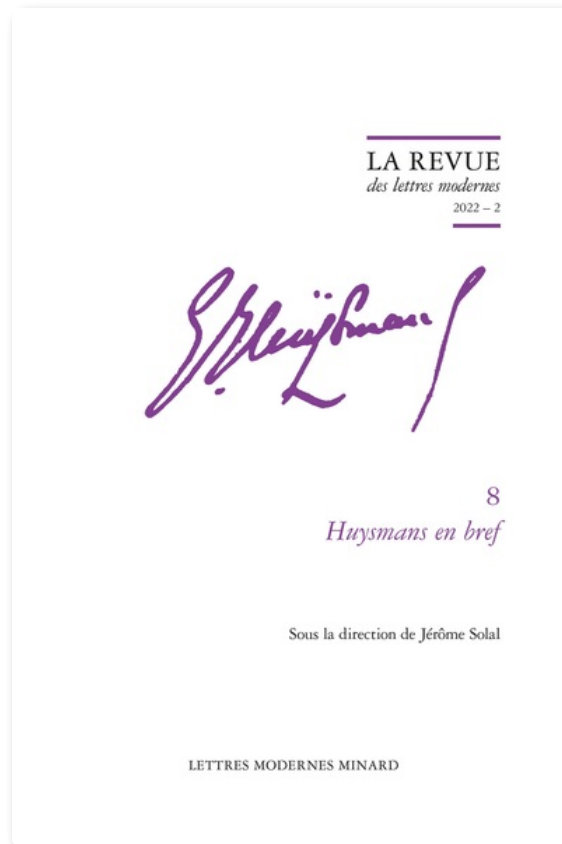




***Les Soirées de Médan*, three ironic modes**

Zola, Huysmans, Maupassant

Publication type: Journal article

Journal: [La Revue des lettres modernes](#)
[2022 - 2. Huysmans en bref](#)

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Abstract: Leaning heavily on the use of irony, *Les Soirées de Médan* takes aim at the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. The stories of Zola, Maupassant, and Huysmans seem to be exemplary in their use of irony, scrolling through the trope's range of possibilities in various ways. Zola emphasizes above all bitter and tragic irony. The other two authors share a more comical irony, especially Huysmans, who stands out from the others with a sui generis use of self-derision.

Pages: 111 to 125

Journal: [Journal of Modern Literature](#)

Series: [Joris-Karl Huysmans](#), n° 8

CLIL theme: 4027 -- SCIENCES HUMAINES ET SOCIALES, LETTRES -- Lettres et Sciences du langage -- Lettres -- Etudes littéraires générales et thématiques

EAN: 9782406111498

ISBN: 978-2-406-11149-8

ISSN: 0035-2136

DOI: 10.48611/isbn.978-2-406-11149-8.p.0111

Publisher: Classiques Garnier

Online publication: 03-02-2022

Periodicity: Monthly

Language: French

Keyword: short story, irony, Zola, Maupassant, naturalism, war

[Display online](#)