

Acknowledgements

I wish to express my appreciation to both The University of New England and The Australian National University for granting me study leave to carry out much of the research for this book.

More particularly, I am deeply grateful to Barbara Holloway and Maggie Shapley for their painstaking editorial work. Barbara helped me make the first of many much needed pruning operations on the manuscript. Maggie provided me with advice on how to trim and focus the argument even further. In addition, Maggie has been responsible for the copy editing of the book in preparation for publication.

My final word of thanks goes to my wife, Gabrielle Hyslop, who, besides assisting in editing, has had to live with this Chekhov project for a considerable number of years. Her support and belief in the value of this book have sustained me throughout.