APPENDIX

CHRONOLOGY OF IMPORTANT EVENTS IN SYNGE'S LIFE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Cultural and Historical events</th>
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<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>16 April: John Millington Synge born in 2 Newton Villas, Rathfarnham, near Dublin.</td>
<td>Franco-Prussian War ends</td>
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<td>1885</td>
<td>Synge reads Darwin and suffers a crisis of faith.</td>
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<td>1886</td>
<td>Joins the Dublin Naturalists' Field Club.</td>
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<td>1887</td>
<td>Begins studying the violin with Patric Griffith in Dublin.</td>
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<td>1888</td>
<td>Enters Trinity College, Dublin.</td>
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<td>1889</td>
<td>Attends lectures in Musical Theory at the Royal Academy of Music, Dublin.</td>
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1890  The Synge family moves to Crosthwaite Park, Kingstown (Dun Laoghaire).

1891  Synge joins the orchestra of the Royal Academy of Music and plays in the March concert.

1892  Awarded a scholarship in counterpoint by the Royal Academy of Music and receives a pass degree from Trinity College, Dublin. He falls in love with Cherry Matheson.

1893  Travels to Germany and studies music at Oberwerth, near Coblenz.

1894  Travels to Wurzburg to continue his music studies and later goes to Paris to study at the Sorbonne and teach English.

Death of Parnell.

Theatre d'Art founded.

First performances of Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*, Maeterlinck's *The Intruder*.

Yeats's *The Countess Cathleen* published.

First performance of Hauptmann's *The Weavers*. 
1895 Proposes to Cherry Matheson and is rejected. Begins writing Vita Vecchia. In Paris he studies socialism, attending lectures by the anarchist Sebastien Faure. He also renews his studies in Irish antiquities and the Irish language. He meets Therese Beydon.

1896 Meets W. B. Yeats for the first time in Paris. Visits Italy. He proposes formally to Cherry Matheson and is rejected.

1897 Joins the Irish League in January, but resigns from it in April. Begins to study mysticism and theosophy. A growth develops in the neck and his hair begins to fall out. He is operated on in the Mount Street Nursing Home, Dublin. He begins writing Etude Morbide.
1898 He returns to Paris in January, wearing a black wig. Attends Professor H.d'Arbois Jubainville's lectures on Celtic civilisation and meets Margaret Hardon. On 10 May he arrives on Aranmor for the first time, and stays in the islands until 25 June, taking photographs and writing a journal of his experiences. He visits Lady Gregory at Coole Park, Co. Galway, and meets Edward Martyn. He proposes to Margaret Hardon and is rejected.

1899 Visits Brittany and Aran for the second time, and completes *Etude Morbide*.

1900 Visits Aran for the third time and begins writing *When the Moon Has Set*, making use of much earlier notebook material.

1901 Visits Aran for the fourth time and completes *The Aran Islands*. He completes a two-act version of *When the Moon Has Set* which
is rejected by Lady Gregory for the Irish Literary Theatre.

1902  Writes *A Vernal Play, Luasnad, Capa and Laine*, Riders to the Sea and *In the Shadow of the Glen*, and begins *The Tinker's Wedding*. Fisher Unwin rejects *The Aran Islands*.


1904  Visits Mayo for the first time and revisits West Kerry, 25 February: First performance of *Riders to the Sea*. *Riders to the Sea* and *In the Shadow of the Glen* are performed

First performance of Yeats's *Cathleen ni Houlihan*,
Gorki's *The Lower Depths*. Lady Gregory's *Cuchulain of Muirthemne* published.

Shaw's *Man and Superman* published.

Abbey Theatre founded.

First performance of Lady Gregory's *Spreading the News*, Shaw's *John Bull's Other Island*. 
in London at the Royalty Theatre. He completes the two-act version of *The Tinker's Wedding* and *The Well of the Saints*. Miss Horniman enters the scene and the Abbey Theatre is born.

1905 4 February: First performance of *The Well of the Saints*. Synge becomes a Director of the Irish National Theatre Society together with W. B. Yeats and Lady Gregory.

Synge falls in love with Molly Allgood and they become secretly engaged. He completes the first draft of *The Playboy of the Western World*, and accompanies the Abbey Theatre Company on tours of England, Ireland and Scotland.

1907 26 January: First performance of *The Playboy of the Western World* causes riots in Dublin. It is performed with great success in Oxford and London. Synge is again operated on for a swelling.

First performance of Strindberg's *A Dream Play*. Joyce's *Chamber Music* published.
in his neck. He begins writing Deirdre of the Sorrows. He suffers the first indications of a tumour in his side.

1908 Exploratory surgery reveals that the growth in Synge's side is inoperable. He continues working on Deirdre of the Sorrows and postpones his marriage plans. During his autumn visit to Oberwerth his mother dies.


1910 13 January: First performance of Deirdre of the Sorrows under the direction of Maire O'Neill (Molly Allgood) who played Deirdre.