Contents

Preface xi
Acknowledgments xiv
Addendum to the Preface xv
Introduction: Theater in Flux, 1945–1949 1
  I. Veterans Into the Breach: Grünberg, Wolf and Wangenheim 10
  II. The Emergence of the Socialist Perspective: 1951–1956 25
III. Toward a Socialist National Theater 50
IV. The Dialectic Digression 59
  V. Brown Coal Dialectics 71
VI. In Search of the Mainstream 85
VII. Collective Bucolics 94
VIII. The Bourgeois Aesthetic: Up Against the Wall 112
  X. Ruminations and Rejections: The Eleventh Plenary Inquisition 132
  XI. The Contemporary Topical Drama 141
Bibliography 155
Index 162