Contents

Acknowledgments			i
Lis	st of	Abbreviations	:
In	trod	luction	
	I	What is cliché?	3
	II	Cliché and philosophy	
	III	Cliché and rhetoric	10
	IV	Cliché and aesthetics	1.5
	V	Cliché and terror	2
	VI	Cliché and the body: After Ricks	24
		Beckett and cliché	26
1	Cliché, Consensus and Realism		
	I	Beckett, verisimilitude and the early fiction	30
	II	Beyond realism: Towards the later work	50
2	Cliché and Memory		
	I	Introduction: Memory and automatism	65
	H		69
	III	Culture, memory and the body	84
3	Cliché, Autobiography and Epitaph		93
	I	What time will tell	94
	II	The myth of hindsight: Beyond the end	
		in Beckett's theatre	108
4	Cliché and the Language of Religion		123
	I	Introduction: Holy Writ	123
	II	Fallen language and Molloy	131
	III	Willing and nilling: God and human volition	135
	IV	The docile herd: Religion and social conformity	
		in the later work	139
	V	Voice and incarnation	149
	VI	Theatre, voice and divine communication	156
5	Beyond Cliché: Authority, Agency and the Fall of Rhetoric		
	I	Introduction: Condemned to life	162
	II	Figures of authority	165

viii Contents

III IV V	Agency and the undoing of rhetoric Beyond the figural: The later work Beyond cliché: The body and the law in Beckett's theatre	181 196 203	
Notes	Notes		
Bibliography			
Index			