

Contents

| | |
|--|-----|
| <i>Acknowledgments</i> | ix |
| Introduction: Liberal Satire in Postwar America | I |
| PART ONE: THE POSITIVE USES OF HUMOR | |
| 1 Bill Mauldin and the Politics of Postwar American Satire | 15 |
| 2 “We Shall Meet the Enemy”: Herbert Block, Robert Osborn, Walt Kelly, and Liberal Cartoonists’ “Weapon of Wit” | 33 |
| PART TWO: THE CLEANSING LASH OF LAUGHTER | |
| 3 Comic Revenge: Parodic Revelry and “Sick” Humor in the 1950s Satiric Underground | 77 |
| 4 “Truth Grinning in a Solemn, Canting World”: Liberal Satire’s Masculine, “Sociologically Oriented and Psychically Adjusted” Critique | 119 |
| 5 Spontaneous Irony: The Second City, the Premise, and Early Sixties Satiric Cabaret and Revue | 161 |
| PART THREE: THE POLITICS OF LAUGHTER | |
| 6 “We Hope You Like Us, Jack”: Liberal Political Satire, 1958–63 | 193 |
| 7 “Are There Any Groups Here I Haven’t Offended Yet?”: Liberal Satire Takes a Stand | 239 |

| | | |
|---|--|-----|
| 8 | “Well-Aimed Ridicule”: Satirizing American Race Relations | 269 |
| 9 | Mocking Dr. Strangelove; or, How American Satirists Flayed the Cold War, the Bomb, and American Foreign Policy in Southeast Asia | 299 |

PART FOUR: THE LIMITS OF IRREVERENCE

| | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 10 | “Sophisticated Daring” and Political Cowardice: Television Satire and NBC’s <i>That Was the Week That Was</i> | 345 |
| 11 | Satire That Would “Gag a Goat”: Crossing the Line with Paul Krassner and Lenny Bruce | 389 |
| | Conclusion: Liberal Satire’s Last Laughs | 425 |
| | <i>Notes</i> | 447 |
| | <i>Selected Discography and Bibliography</i> | 543 |
| | <i>Index</i> | 555 |