

# Table of Contents

Introduction . . . . .	1
CHAPTER ONE:	
History, Tradition, and Structure of the Aphorism . . . . .	21
I. The History of the Aphorism . . . . .	24
II. The German and French Models of Aphoristic Expression . . . . .	36
III. The Text-Internal Dialectic of the Aphorism . . . . .	46
IV. Aphorism and Hermeneutics: The Text-External Dialectic . . . . .	52
V. Aphorism and Linguistic Scepticism . . . . .	60
CHAPTER TWO:	
Aphorism and Aphorists in Turn-of-the-Century Austria . . . . .	64
I. Aphorism and <i>Zeitgeist</i> . . . . .	65
II. From Impression to Epiphany: The Aphorism in the Austrian <i>Jahrhundertwende</i> . . . . .	85
A) Ambivalence Toward the Form of the Aphorism . . . . .	87
B) The Aphorism of Impression . . . . .	90
C) The Aphorism of Epiphany . . . . .	93
III. Aphorism and <i>Sprachkrise</i> in Turn-of-the-Century Austria . . . . .	98
A) Aphorism and <i>Sprachkritik</i> . . . . .	99
B) Mauthner's <i>Kritik der Sprache</i> . . . . .	101
C) Hofmannsthal's Chandos . . . . .	103
D) Musil: Essayism and Aphoristics . . . . .	109
E) Karl Kraus: Aphorism and Critique of <i>Sprachgebrauch</i> . . . . .	112
F) Wittgenstein's <i>Tractatus</i> . . . . .	116
CHAPTER THREE:	
Kafka: Aphoristic Text and Aphoristic Context . . . . .	119
I. Kafka and Turn-of-the-Century Austria . . . . .	121
II. Kafka's Inclination Toward Aphoristic Utterances . . . . .	124

III. Kafka and "Aphoristics" . . . . .	134
A) The Conflict of Individual and Universal . . . . .	135
B) Aphorism and the Fragmentary . . . . .	149
C) Dynamism and Perspectivism . . . . .	154
D) Kafka's Conceptual Patterns . . . . .	159
IV. Kafka's Aphorisms and the Crisis of Communication . . . . .	163
CHAPTER FOUR:	
Kafka and his Aphoristic Precursors . . . . .	172
I. Aphorism and Autobiography: Self-Observation and Self-Projection . . . . .	174
II. Pascal and Kierkegaard: Scepticism and Critical Method . . . . .	190
III. Aphorism and Polemics: Karl Kraus . . . . .	203
CHAPTER FIVE:	
Kafka's Aphorisms: Intratext and Intertext . . . . .	210
I. Compositional History and Compositional Strategies of Kafka's Aphorisms . . . . .	216
II. Form and Structure of Kafka's Aphorisms . . . . .	233
A) Lexical Features . . . . .	236
B) Metaphor . . . . .	244
C) Syntactic Elements . . . . .	252
D) Logical Structures . . . . .	253
CHAPTER SIX:	
Aphorism and Met-Aphorism: The Relationship of Aphorism and Parable in Kafka's <i>Œuvre</i> . . . . .	264
BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .	293