

Contents

Acknowledgements	vi
Introduction	1
1. Blues notes: a discourse of race in the poetry of Langston Hughes, in <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> by Zora Neale Hurston and in <i>Corregidora</i> by Gayl Jones	27
2. Bebop spoken here: performativity in Ralph Ellison, James Baldwin and Toni Morrison	62
3. Modes of experience: modal jazz and the authority of experience in Ishmael Reed's <i>Mumbo Jumbo</i> , Toni Morrison's <i>The Bluest Eye</i> and <i>Song of Solomon</i>	96
4. Free jazz: postracialism and collectivity in Toni Morrison's 'Recitatif' and <i>Paradise</i>	126
Conclusion	163
Notes	166
Bibliography	178
Discography	185
Index	187