Contents

	*		
	Introduction	1	
l.	Decadence?	9	
2.	Transgressions	27	
3.	How They Lived	51	
4.	Affections and Disaffections	83	
5.	The Endless Crisis	105	
6.	A Wolf to All	130	
7.	The Old Arts and the New	142	
8.	Theater	159	
9.	Curists and Tourists	177	
10.	La Petite Reine	195	
11.	Faster, Higher, Stronger	213	
12.	"The Best of Times"	234	
	Notes	247	
	Acknowledgments	283	
	Index	285	

Illustrations

*	
"La Parisienne," the stucco figure surmounting the main gate of the 1900 Exhibition. <i>L'Illustration</i> , 14 April 1900.	8
An Ogé poster, featuring a young smoker, advertises a popular cigarette paper. Reproduced from Charles Hiatt, <i>Picture Posters</i> (London, 1895).	30
Eugène Samuel Grasset, Morphineuse, from L'Album d'estampes originales de la Galerie Vollard, lithograph, 1897. Courtesy of The Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Wight Art Gallery, UCLA.	33
Mario Iribe, illustration from "Esthètes!" L'Assiette au Beurre, 25 April 1903. Courtesy of The Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Wight Art Gallery, UCLA.	38
Mario Iribe, illustration from "Esthètes!" L'Assiette au Beurre, 25 April 1903. Courtesy of The Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Wight Art Gallery, UCLA.	39
Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, Au Pied de l'Echafaud, lithograph, 1893. Courtesy of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, from the Collection of Dr. and Mrs. Kurt Wagner.	43
The spread of modern comforts to the Paris suburbs. Drawing by Ricardo Flores, <i>L'Assiette au Beurre</i> , 1907. Photograph by Terry O'Donnell.	55
Shoeless boy. Théophile-Alexandre Steinlen. Illustration from <i>Gil Blas</i> . Courtesy of The Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Wight Art Gallery, UCLA.	69
Théophile-Alexandre Steinlen, "In the Omnibus." Cover illustration for <i>Gil Blas</i> , 30 December 1894. Courtesy of The Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Wight Art Gallery, UCLA.	72
Maurice Delondre, "Dans l'Omnibus," 1890. Courtesy of the Musée Carnavalet, Paris.	73

x • Illustrations

Jules Chéret, <i>Théâtrophone</i> , lithograph, 1890. Courtesy of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, from the Collection of Dr. and Mrs. Kurt Wagner.	75
René Péan, advertisement for Aux Trois Quartiers, late 1880s. Courtesy of the Musée Carnavalet, Paris.	98
La Porte Monumentale de la place de la Concorde. L'Illustration, 14 April 1900.	106
Jules Chéret, poster announcing the opening of the Olympia Music Hall, April 1893. Photograph by Terry O'Donnell.	168
Jules Chéret, <i>La Musique</i> , decorative panel from a four-part series of lithographs celebrating the arts, 1891. Courtesy of The Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts, Wight Art Gallery, UCLA.	169
A poster by an unknown artist, advertising one of Georges Méliès's favorite magic tricks, 1891. Photograph by Terry O'Donnell.	172
Advertisement for a waxworks show featuring the Lumière brothers' cinematograph and Roentgen's X-rays. Photograph by Terry O'Donnell.	174
An advertisement for Clément Bicycles, shown in a velodrome. Photograph by Terry O'Donnell.	196
Various types of cycles. Pierre Giffard, La Reine Bicyclette (Paris, 1891).	198
Théophile-Alexandre Steinlen, <i>Motorcycles Comiot</i> , lithograph, 1899. Courtesy of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, from the Collection of Dr. and Mrs. Kurt Wagner.	202