CONTENTS

	Introduction	1	
1	'Médaillons et Portraits': the language of admiration		
	and tribute	16	
	Early literary criticism	12	
	Verlaine	13	
	Gautier and Banville	15	
	Rimbaud	17	
	Younger contemporaries	21	
	Tennyson and Swinburne	28	
	Edgar Allan Poe	31	
	Wagner	34	
	Villiers de l'Isle-Adam and William Beckford	38	
	Maupassant and Zola	45	
	The Impressionist painters	48	
2	The prose poems and the translations	54	
	The prose poems	55	
	The translation of Poe's poetry	60	
	The 'Contes Indiens'	64	
3	'Les Mots Anglais'	71	
4	'La Dernière Mode'	84	
	The objects of fashion	90	
	The image of fashion	95	
	'La Femme': the subject of fashion	105	
	The spectacle of language and fashion	111	
5	The language of theatre	119	
	Mallarme and contemporary theatre	122	
	The presence of theatre	129	
	Elements of the theatre: myth, suspense and hero	135	
	The space of dance	154	
	The book and the spoken word	162	

CONTENTS

ŝ	The language of literature	168
	Reality and the map of words	174
	In black and white	182
	'L'œuvre pure': expectation and experience	188
	'La Musique et Les Lettres'	200
	Reading: a paradox of movement	214
	Conclusion	223
	Bibliography	23 3
	Index	237