

# Contents

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Preface  | xxv  |
| Acknowledgments  | xxix |
| Introduction   | 1    |
| John Gower (1330 <sup>?</sup> -1408)<br>from <i>Confessio Amantis</i>                                | 27   |
| William Langland (1330 <sup>?</sup> -1386 <sup>?</sup> )<br>from <i>The Vision of Piers Plowman</i>  | 29   |
| Geoffrey Chaucer (1343 <sup>?</sup> -1400)<br>from <i>The Canterbury Tales</i>                       | 31   |
| Thomas Hoccleve (1367 <sup>?</sup> -1426)<br>from <i>La Male Regle de T. Hoccleue</i>                | 37   |
| John Lydgate (1370 <sup>?</sup> -1449/50)<br>from <i>King Henry VI's Triumphal Entry into London</i> | 40   |
| Anon. (15th century)<br><i>London Lickpenny</i>  | 49   |
| John Skelton (1460 <sup>?</sup> -1529)<br>from <i>Collyn Clout</i>                                   | 54   |
| Anon. (1500 <sup>?</sup> )<br>"London, thou art of townes A per se"                                  | 56   |
| Sir Thomas Wyatt (1503-1542)<br>"Tagus, farewell, that westward with thy streams"                    | 59   |
| "Who list his wealth and ease retain"  | 60   |
| Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey (1517 <sup>?</sup> -1547)<br>"London, hast thou accusèd me"             | 61   |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Anne Askew (1521–1546)<br><i>The Ballad Which Anne Askew Made and Sang When She<br/>Was in Newgate</i>                                | 63  |
| George Turberville (1544?–1597?)<br><i>The Lover to the Thames of London, to Favour His Lady<br/>Passing Thereon</i>                  | 65  |
| Isabella Whitney (1548?–?)<br><i>The Manner of Her Will, and What She Left to London and to<br/>All Those in It, at Her Departing</i> | 66  |
| Edmund Spenser (1552?–1599)<br><i>Prothalamion</i>  | 76  |
| George Peele (1556–1596)<br>from <i>King Edward the First</i>   | 82  |
| Chidioc Tichborne (1558?–1586)<br><i>Tichborne's Elegy</i>  | 83  |
| Michael Drayton (1563–1631)<br>from <i>Poly-Olbion</i>  | 84  |
| William Shakespeare (1564–1616)<br>from <i>Henry VI, Part II</i>  | 85  |
| from <i>Henry V</i>   | 87  |
| from <i>Henry VIII</i>  | 90  |
| Thomas Nashe (1567?–1601)<br>from <i>Summer's Last Will and Testament</i>   | 95  |
| Everard Guilpin (1572?–?)<br>from <i>Skiaetheia</i>   | 96  |
| Ben Jonson (1572?–1637)<br>from <i>The Devil Is an Ass</i>  | 101 |
| <i>On the Famous Voyage</i>   | 104 |
| John Donne (1572–1631)<br><i>Satire 1</i>   | 110 |
| <i>To Mr. E. G.</i>   | 114 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <i>Epithalamion Made at Lincoln's Inn</i>                     | 115 |
| <i>Satire 4</i>   | 118 |
| <i>Twickenham Garden</i>                                      | 125 |
| John Taylor (1580–1653)                                       |     |
| from <i>The Sculler</i>                                       | 126 |
| from <i>Sir Gregory Nonsense's News from No Place</i>         | 127 |
| Philip Massinger (1583–1640)                                  |     |
| from <i>The City Madam</i>                                    | 129 |
| Francis Beaumont (1584–1616) and John Fletcher (1579–1625)    |     |
| from <i>The Knight of the Burning Pestle</i>                  | 132 |
| Francis Beaumont (1584–1616)                                  |     |
| <i>Letter to Ben Jonson</i>                                   | 134 |
| <i>On the Tombs in Westminster Abbey</i>                      | 137 |
| Thomas Freeman (1590?–1630?)                                  |     |
| from <i>London's Progress</i>                                 | 139 |
| W. Turner (?)   |     |
| from <i>Turner's Dish of Lenten Stuff, or a Gallimaufry</i>   | 140 |
| Abraham Holland (?–1626)                                      |     |
| from <i>London, Look Back</i>                                 | 144 |
| Robert Herrick (1591–1674)                                    |     |
| <i>An Ode for Him [Ben Jonson]</i>                            | 146 |
| <i>His Return to London</i>                                   | 147 |
| <i>His Tears to Thamasis</i>                                  | 148 |
| Anon. (1640s, pub. 1662)                                      |     |
| <i>London Sad London: An Echo</i>                             | 149 |
| Edmund Waller (1606–1687)                                     |     |
| <i>On the Statue of King Charles I at Charing Cross</i>       | 150 |
| <i>On St. James's Park, As Lately Improved by His Majesty</i> | 151 |
| John Milton (1608–1674)                                       |     |
| <i>When the Assault Was Intended to the City</i>              | 155 |

VIII CONTENTS

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Sir John Suckling (1609–1642)   |     |
| <i>A Ballad upon a Wedding</i>  | 156 |
| Thomas Jordan (1612?–1685)  |     |
| from <i>The Cheaters Cheated</i>  | 161 |
| from <i>The Triumphs of London</i>  | 162 |
| <i>A Song Sung at the Lord Mayor's Table in Honour of the<br/>City and the Goldsmiths Company</i> | 165 |
| Sir John Denham (1615–1669)   |     |
| from <i>Cooper's Hill</i>   | 168 |
| Abraham Cowley (1618–1667)  |     |
| from <i>The Civil War</i>   | 170 |
| Richard Lovelace (1618–1657/8)  |     |
| <i>To Althea, from Prison: Song</i>   | 172 |
| Simon Ford (1619?–1699)   |     |
| from <i>London's Resurrection</i>   | 174 |
| Henry Vaughan (1621–1695)   |     |
| <i>A Rhapsody</i>   | 178 |
| Anon. (17th century)  |     |
| <i>The Cries of London</i>  | 181 |
| Andrew Marvell (1621–1678)  |     |
| <i>An Horatian Ode upon Cromwell's Return from Ireland</i>  | 182 |
| John Dryden (1631–1700)   |     |
| from <i>Annus Mirabilis</i>   | 186 |
| from <i>MacFlecknoe</i>   | 199 |
| Anon. (pub. 1680)   |     |
| <i>In the Fields of Lincoln's Inn</i>   | 203 |
| John Wilmot, Earl of Rochester (1647–1680)  |     |
| from <i>A Letter from Artemisa in the Town to Chloe in the Country</i>                            | 205 |
| <i>Song ("Quoth the Duchess of Cleveland to Counselor Knight")</i>                                | 211 |
| <i>A Ramble in St. James's Park</i>   | 212 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| John Oldham (1653–1683)<br>from <i>A Satire in Imitation of the Third of Juvenal</i>                     | 217 |
| Anon. (1684)<br><i>A Winter Wonder; or, the Thames Frozen Over,<br/>with Remarks on the Resort There</i> | 228 |
| Anon. (1684)<br>from <i>The Wonders of the Deep</i>  | 231 |
| Pierre Antoine Motteux (1660–1718)<br><i>A Song</i>  | 233 |
| Jonathan Swift (1667–1745)<br><i>A Description of the Morning</i>  | 234 |
| <i>A Description of a City Shower</i>  | 235 |
| <i>Clever Tom Clinch</i>   | 237 |
| <i>A Beautiful Young Nymph Going to Bed</i>  | 238 |
| from <i>On Poetry: A Rhapsody</i>  | 241 |
| John Gay (1685–1732)<br>from <i>Trivia: or, The Art of Walking the Streets of London</i>                 | 243 |
| from <i>The Beggar's Opera</i>   | 254 |
| Anon. (pub. 1719)<br><i>The Fair Lass of Islington</i>   | 255 |
| Alexander Pope (1688–1744)<br><i>The Alley. An Imitation of Spenser</i>                                  | 258 |
| <i>A Farewell to London in the Year 1715</i>   | 260 |
| <i>Epistle to Miss Blount, on her Leaving the Town, after the Coronation</i>                             | 262 |
| from <i>The Dunciad</i>  | 264 |
| Lady Mary Wortley Montagu (1689–1762)<br>from <i>Six Town Eclogues</i>                                   | 276 |
| Elizabeth Tollet (1694–1754)<br><i>On the Prospect from Westminster Bridge, March 1750</i>               | 279 |
| John Bancks (1709–1751)<br><i>A Description of London</i>  | 280 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Anon. (1739)                                     |     |
| <i>Hail, London!</i>                             | 281 |
| Samuel Johnson (1709–1784)                       |     |
| from <i>London</i>                               | 283 |
| Nursery Rhymes (pub. 18th–19th centuries)        |     |
| <i>London Bridge</i>                             | 289 |
| <i>Oranges and Lemons</i>                        | 290 |
| “Pussy cat, pussy cat, where have you been?”     | 291 |
| “Poussie, poussie, baudrons”                     | 292 |
| “Up at Piccadilly oh!”                           | 292 |
| “See-saw, sacradown”                             | 292 |
| “Upon Paul’s steeple stands a tree”              | 293 |
| “As I was going o’er London Bridge”              | 293 |
| “As I was going o’er London Bridge”              | 293 |
| “I had a little hobby horse, it was well shod”   | 293 |
| <i>Pop Goes the Weasel</i>                       | 294 |
| William Whitehead (1715–1785)                    |     |
| <i>The Sweepers</i>                              | 295 |
| Oliver Goldsmith (1729–1774)                     |     |
| <i>Description of an Author’s Bedchamber</i>     | 299 |
| William Cowper (1731–1800)                       |     |
| from <i>The Task</i>                             | 300 |
| Charles Jenner (1736–1774)                       |     |
| from <i>Town Eclogues</i>                        | 303 |
| Anna Letitia Barbauld (1743–1825)                |     |
| <i>Song for the London Volunteers</i>            | 307 |
| <i>West End Fair</i>                             | 309 |
| Charles Dibdin (1745 <sup>?</sup> –1814)         |     |
| <i>The Jolly Young Waterman</i>                  | 311 |
| <i>Poll of Wapping</i>                           | 312 |
| Hannah More (1745–1833)                          |     |
| from <i>The Gin-Shop; or, A Peep into Prison</i> | 313 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Mary Robinson (1757–1800)                                  |     |
| <i>London's Summer Morning</i>                             | 316 |
| William Blake (1757–1827)                                  |     |
| <i>Holy Thursday</i>                                       | 318 |
| <i>The Chimney Sweeper</i>                                 | 319 |
| <i>London</i>  | 320 |
| from <i>Jerusalem</i>                                      | 321 |
| Joanna Baillie (1762–1851)                                 |     |
| <i>London</i>  | 325 |
| William Wordsworth (1770–1850)                             |     |
| <i>The Farmer of Tilsbury Vale</i>                         | 327 |
| <i>The Reverie of Poor Susan</i>                           | 330 |
| <i>Composed Upon Westminster Bridge, September 3, 1802</i> | 331 |
| from <i>The Prelude</i>                                    | 332 |
| James Smith (1775–1839) and Horace Smith (1779–1849)       |     |
| from <i>Horace in London</i>                               | 343 |
| Leigh Hunt (1784–1859)                                     |     |
| <i>To Hampstead</i>  | 346 |
| <i>Description of Hampstead</i>                            | 347 |
| Lord Byron (1788–1824)                                     |     |
| from <i>Childe Harold's Pilgrimage</i>                     | 348 |
| from <i>Don Juan</i>                                       | 349 |
| Percy Bysshe Shelley (1792–1822)                           |     |
| from <i>Letter to Maria Gisborne</i>                       | 357 |
| from <i>Peter Bell the Third</i>                           | 359 |
| John Hamilton Reynolds (1794–1852)                         |     |
| <i>Sonnet</i>  | 362 |
| John Keats (1795–1821)                                     |     |
| “To one who has been long in city pent”                    | 363 |
| <i>On Seeing the Elgin Marbles</i>                         | 364 |
| <i>Lines on the Mermaid Tavern</i>                         | 365 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Thomas Hood (1799–1845)                                |     |
| <i>Moral Reflections on the Cross of St. Paul's</i>    | 366 |
| <i>The Lord Mayor's Show</i>                           | 368 |
| <i>Sonnet to Vauxhall</i>                              | 370 |
| <i>The Workhouse Clock: An Allegory</i>                | 371 |
| Letitia Elizabeth Landon (1802–1838)                   |     |
| <i>Scenes in London: Piccadilly</i>                    | 374 |
| Winthrop Mackworth Praed (1802–1839)                   |     |
| <i>Goodnight to the Season</i>                         | 377 |
| Elizabeth Barrett Browning (1806–1861)                 |     |
| from <i>Aurora Leigh</i>                               | 381 |
| Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809–1892)                      |     |
| from <i>In Memoriam</i>                                | 383 |
| from <i>Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington</i> | 384 |
| <i>Cleopatra's Needle</i>                              | 387 |
| Anon. (1851)   |     |
| <i>Have You Been to the Crystal Palace?</i>            | 388 |
| Robert Browning (1812–1889)                            |     |
| from <i>Waring</i>                                     | 392 |
| Edward Lear (1812–1888)                                |     |
| <i>There Was an Old Person of Putney</i>               | 395 |
| <i>There Was an Old Man of Blackheath</i>              | 395 |
| <i>There Was a Young Person of Kew</i>                 | 395 |
| <i>There Was an Old Person of Bow</i>                  | 395 |
| <i>There Was a Young Lady of Greenwich</i>             | 395 |
| <i>There Was an Old Person of Ealing</i>               | 396 |
| <i>There Was an Old Person of Bromley</i>              | 396 |
| <i>There Was an Old Person of Sheen</i>                | 396 |
| <i>There Was an Old Man of Thames Ditton</i>           | 396 |
| Arthur Hugh Clough (1819–1861)                         |     |
| <i>To the Great Metropolis</i>                         | 397 |
| <i>In the Great Metropolis</i>                         | 398 |



|  |     |
|--|-----|
| “Blessed are those who have not seen”                                    | 399 |
| “Ye flags of Piccadilly”   | 400 |
| Anon. (19th century)<br>from <i>The Cries of London</i>                  | 401 |
| George Eliot (1819–1880)<br><i>In a London Drawingroom</i>               | 402 |
| Anon. (1869)<br><i>Strike of the London Cabmen</i>                       | 403 |
| Frederick Locker-Lampson (1821–1895)<br><i>St. James’s Street</i>        | 405 |
| Matthew Arnold (1822–1888)<br><i>Lines Written in Kensington Gardens</i> | 407 |
| <i>West London</i>   | 409 |
| <i>East London</i>   | 410 |
| Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828–1882)<br><i>Tiber, Nile, and Thames</i>     | 411 |
| Coventry Patmore (1823–1896)<br><i>A London Fête</i>                     | 412 |
| James Thomson (1834–1882)<br>from <i>Sunday at Hampstead</i>             | 414 |
| Henry S. Leigh (1837–1883)<br><i>A Cockney’s Evening Song</i>            | 423 |
| Anon. (1893)<br><i>Bloomsbury</i>  | 424 |
| Austin Dobson (1840–1921)<br><i>A New Song of the Spring Garden</i>      | 426 |
| Thomas Hardy (1840–1928)<br><i>Beyond the Last Lamp</i>                  | 427 |
| <i>The Coronation</i>  | 429 |
| <i>In the British Museum</i>   | 431 |
| <i>In St. Paul’s a While Ago</i>   | 432 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <i>Coming Up Oxford Street: Evening</i> | 434 |
| <i>A Refusal</i>                        | 435 |
| <i>To a Tree in London</i>              | 437 |
| <i>Christmas in the Elgin Room</i>      | 438 |
| W. H. Hudson (1841-1922)                |     |
| <i>To a London Sparrow</i>              | 440 |
| Robert Bridges (1844-1930)              |     |
| <i>London Snow</i>                      | 442 |
| <i>Trafalgar Square</i>                 | 444 |
| W. E. Henley (1849-1903)                |     |
| from <i>London Voluntaries</i>          | 445 |
| from <i>London Types</i>                | 446 |
| Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)                 |     |
| <i>Impression du Matin</i>              | 452 |
| John Davidson (1857-1909)               |     |
| <i>London</i>                           | 453 |
| <i>Thirty Bob a Week</i>                | 454 |
| <i>In the Isle of Dogs</i>              | 457 |
| <i>Fog</i>                              | 460 |
| from <i>The Thames Embankment</i>       | 461 |
| A. E. Housman (1859-1936)               |     |
| "From the wash the laundress sends"     | 463 |
| Mary E. Coleridge (1861-1907)           |     |
| <i>In London Town</i>                   | 464 |
| Amy Levy (1861-1889)                    |     |
| <i>A March Day in London</i>            | 465 |
| <i>Straw in the Street</i>              | 466 |
| <i>London Poets</i>                     | 467 |
| Rudyard Kipling (1865-1936)             |     |
| <i>In Partibus</i>                      | 468 |
| <i>The River's Tale</i>                 | 471 |
| <i>London Stone</i>                     | 473 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <i>The Craftsman</i>                                  | 475 |
| from <i>Epitaphs of the War</i>                       | 476 |
| Arthur Symons (1865–1945)                             |     |
| from <i>London Nights</i>                             | 477 |
| from <i>Décor de Théâtre</i>                          | 479 |
| <i>London</i>   | 481 |
| W. B. Yeats (1865–1939)                               |     |
| from <i>Vacillation</i>                               | 482 |
| Lionel Johnson (1867–1902)                            |     |
| <i>London Town</i>                                    | 483 |
| <i>By the Statue of King Charles at Charing Cross</i> | 486 |
| Charlotte Mew (1869–1928)                             |     |
| <i>In Nunhead Cemetery</i>                            | 488 |
| Laurence Binyon (1869–1943)                           |     |
| <i>As I Walked Through London</i>                     | 491 |
| T. E. Hulme (1883–1917)                               |     |
| <i>The Embankment</i>                                 | 492 |
| Ezra Pound (1885–1972)                                |     |
| <i>Portrait d'une Femme</i>                           | 493 |
| <i>The Garden</i>                                     | 494 |
| <i>Simulacra</i>                                      | 495 |
| from <i>Hugh Selwyn Mauberley</i>                     | 496 |
| D. H. Lawrence (1885–1930)                            |     |
| <i>Flat Suburbs, S. W., in the Morning</i>            | 499 |
| from <i>Guards</i>                                    | 500 |
| <i>Bombardment</i>                                    | 501 |
| <i>Hyde Park at Night, Before the War</i>             | 502 |
| <i>Embankment at Night, Before the War</i>            | 503 |
| <i>Town in 1917</i>                                   | 507 |
| Frances Cornford (1886–1960)                          |     |
| <i>London Streets</i>                                 | 508 |
| <i>Parting in Wartime</i>                             | 509 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Siegfried Sassoon (1886-1967)                       |     |
| <i>Monody on the Demolition of Devonshire House</i> | 510 |
| T. S. Eliot (1888-1965)                             |     |
| from <i>The Waste Land</i>                          | 511 |
| from <i>Sweeney Agonistes</i>                       | 516 |
| from <i>Four Quartets</i>                           | 517 |
| Isaac Rosenberg (1890-1918)                         |     |
| <i>Fleet Street</i>                                 | 519 |
| Richard Aldington (1892-1962)                       |     |
| <i>St. Mary's, Kensington</i>                       | 520 |
| <i>In the Tube</i>                                  | 521 |
| <i>Hampstead Heath</i>                              | 522 |
| <i>London</i>                                       | 523 |
| <i>Whitechapel</i>                                  | 524 |
| <i>Eros and Psyche</i>                              | 525 |
| Wilfred Owen (1893-1918)                            |     |
| "I am the ghost of Shadwell Stair"                  | 527 |
| Sylvia Townsend Warner (1893-1978)                  |     |
| <i>Song from the Bride of Smithfield</i>            | 528 |
| <i>East London Cemetery</i>                         | 529 |
| John Rodker (1894-1955)                             |     |
| <i>The Shop</i>                                     | 530 |
| <i>The Searchlight</i>                              | 532 |
| Robert Graves (1895-1985)                           |     |
| <i>Armistice Day, 1918</i>                          | 533 |
| A. S. J. Tessimond (1902-1962)                      |     |
| <i>Tube Station</i>                                 | 535 |
| <i>London</i>                                       | 536 |
| <i>Summer Night at Hyde Park Corner</i>             | 537 |
| <i>Autumn</i>                                       | 538 |
| <i>The City: Midday Nocturne</i>                    | 539 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Stevie Smith (1902–1971)                                  |     |
| <i>Suburb</i>   | 540 |
| William Empson (1906–1984)                                |     |
| <i>Homage to the British Museum</i>                       | 542 |
| John Betjeman (1906–1984)                                 |     |
| <i>The Arrest of Oscar Wilde at the Cadogan Hotel</i>     | 543 |
| <i>In Westminster Abbey</i>                               | 545 |
| <i>Parliament Hill Fields</i>                             | 547 |
| <i>St. Saviour's, Aberdeen Park, Highbury, London, N.</i> | 548 |
| <i>The Metropolitan Railway</i>                           | 550 |
| <i>Business Girls</i>                                     | 552 |
| <i>N.W.5 &amp; N.6</i>                                    | 553 |
| from <i>Summoned by Bells</i>                             | 554 |
| Louis MacNeice (1907–1963)                                |     |
| from <i>Autumn Journal</i>                                | 557 |
| <i>The British Museum Reading Room</i>                    | 560 |
| <i>Goodbye to London</i>                                  | 561 |
| <i>Charon</i>   | 563 |
| Stephen Spender (1909–1995)                               |     |
| <i>Hampstead Autumn</i>                                   | 564 |
| <i>Epilogue to a Human Drama</i>                          | 565 |
| Bernard Spencer (1909–1963)                               |     |
| <i>Regent's Park Terrace</i>                              | 566 |
| <i>Train to Work</i>                                      | 567 |
| Mervyn Peake (1911–1968)                                  |     |
| <i>London Buses</i>                                       | 568 |
| Kenneth Allott (1912–1973)                                |     |
| <i>Memento Mori</i>                                       | 569 |
| Roy Fuller (1912–1991)                                    |     |
| <i>First Winter of War</i>                                | 571 |
| <i>Battersea: After Dunkirk, June 3, 1940</i>             | 572 |
| <i>London Air-Raid, 1940</i>                              | 573 |

XVIII CONTENTS

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Anne Ridler (1912–2001)<br><i>Wentworth Place: Keats Grove</i>   | 574        |
| George Barker (1913–1991)<br><i>Kew Gardens</i>  | 575        |
| Alun Lewis (1915–1944)<br><i>Westminster Abbey</i>   | 578        |
| Robert Lowell (1917–1977)<br>from <i>Redcliffe Square</i><br>from <i>Winter and London</i>                               | 579<br>581 |
| Nicholas Moore (1918–1986)<br><i>Monmouth Street</i>   | 582        |
| John Heath-Stubbs (1918–2006)<br><i>London Architecture 1960s</i><br><i>Lament for the “Old Swan,” Notting Hill Gate</i> | 584<br>585 |
| W. S. Graham (1918–1986)<br><i>The Night City</i>  | 586        |
| Muriel Spark (1918–2006)<br>from <i>A Tour of London</i>   | 588        |
| Keith Douglas (1920–1944)<br>from <i>The “Bête Noire” Fragments</i>  | 590        |
| D. J. Enright (1920–2002)<br><i>The Stations of King’s Cross</i>   | 591        |
| Philip Larkin (1922–1985)<br><i>Deceptions</i><br><i>Naturally the Foundation Will Bear Your Expenses</i>                | 593<br>594 |
| Donald Davie (1922–1995)<br><i>To Londoners</i>  | 595        |
| Dannie Abse (1923–)<br><i>Street Scene</i><br><i>Soho: Saturday Night</i>  | 597<br>598 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| James Berry (1924–)                                  |     |
| <i>Two Black Labourers on a London Building Site</i> | 600 |
| <i>Beginning in a City, 1948</i>                     | 601 |
| John Ashbery (1927–)                                 |     |
| <i>The Tower of London</i>                           | 603 |
| Thom Gunn (1929–2004)                                |     |
| <i>Autobiography</i>                                 | 605 |
| <i>Talbot Road</i>                                   | 606 |
| Connie Bensley (1929–)                               |     |
| <i>Vauxhall</i>                                      | 612 |
| <i>Bottleneck</i>                                    | 613 |
| Peter Porter (1929–2010)                             |     |
| <i>Thomas Hardy at Westbourne Park Villas</i>        | 614 |
| U. A. Fanthorpe (1929–2009)                          |     |
| <i>Rising Damp</i>                                   | 615 |
| <i>Widening the Westway</i>                          | 617 |
| Ted Hughes (1930–1998)                               |     |
| <i>Fate Playing</i>                                  | 618 |
| <i>Epiphany</i>                                      | 620 |
| Derek Walcott (1930–)                                |     |
| from <i>Omeros</i>                                   | 622 |
| Alan Brownjohn (1931–)                               |     |
| <i>A202</i>  | 625 |
| Ruth Fainlight (1931–)                               |     |
| <i>The Same Power</i>                                | 627 |
| Geoffrey Hill (1932–)                                |     |
| <i>Churchill's Funeral</i>                           | 628 |
| <i>To the High Court of Parliament</i>               | 633 |
| Sylvia Plath (1932–1963)                             |     |
| <i>Parliament Hill Fields</i>                        | 634 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Anne Stevenson (1933-)                            |     |
| <i>Cashpoint Charlie</i>                          | 636 |
| Fleur Adcock (1934-)                              |     |
| <i>Miss Hamilton in London</i>                    | 638 |
| <i>Londoner</i>                                   | 639 |
| <i>To Marilyn from London</i>                     | 640 |
| John Fuller (1937-)                               |     |
| from <i>London Songs</i>                          | 641 |
| from <i>The Shires</i>                            | 643 |
| Ken Smith (1938-2003)                             |     |
| from <i>The London Poems</i>                      | 644 |
| Seamus Heaney (1939-)                             |     |
| <i>The Underground</i>                            | 646 |
| <i>District and Circle</i>                        | 647 |
| Lee Harwood (1939-)                               |     |
| <i>Rain journal: London: June 65</i>              | 650 |
| Grey Gowrie (1939-)                               |     |
| <i>Outside Biba's</i>                             | 651 |
| Joseph Brodsky (1940-1996)                        |     |
| from <i>In England</i>                            | 652 |
| Derek Mahon (1941-)                               |     |
| <i>Sunday Morning</i>                             | 653 |
| Hugo Williams (1942-)                             |     |
| <i>Tavistock Square</i>                           | 655 |
| <i>Bar Italia</i>                                 | 656 |
| <i>Bar Italia</i>                                 | 657 |
| <i>Notting Hill</i>                               | 658 |
| Iain Sinclair (1943-)                             |     |
| <i>bunhill fields</i>                             | 659 |
| <i>hurricane drummers: self-aid in haggerston</i> | 660 |



|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Mimi Khalvati (1944-)<br><i>Earls Court</i>   | 662 |
| Carol Rumens (1944-)<br><i>Pleasure Island, Marble Arch</i>                         | 664 |
| Wendy Cope (1945-)<br><i>Lonely Hearts</i>  | 666 |
| <i>After the Lunch</i>  | 667 |
| Peter Reading (1946-)<br>from <i>Perduta Gente</i>                                  | 668 |
| Christopher Reid (1949-)<br><i>North London Sonnet</i>                              | 670 |
| <i>Exasperated Piety</i>  | 671 |
| Gillian Allnut (1949-)<br><i>Museum, 19 Princelet Street, Spitalfields</i>          | 672 |
| John Agard (1949-)<br><i>Toussaint L'Ouverture Acknowledges Wordsworth's Sonnet</i> |     |
| <i>"To Toussaint L'Ouverture"</i>   | 673 |
| <i>Chilling Out Beside the Thames</i>   | 674 |
| Grace Nichols (1950-)<br><i>Island Man</i>  | 675 |
| Charles Boyle (1951-)<br><i>The Miracle at Shepherd's Bush</i>                      | 676 |
| Andrew Motion (1952-)<br><i>London Plane</i>  | 678 |
| Linton Kwesi Johnson (1952-)<br><i>Sonny's Lettah</i>                               | 679 |
| Jo Shapcott (1953-)<br><i>St. Bride's</i>   | 682 |
| Michael Donaghy (1954-2004)<br><i>The River Glideth of His Own Sweet Will</i>       | 683 |
| <i>Poem on The Underground</i>  | 684 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Jeremy Reed (1954-)   |     |
| <i>Quentin Crisp as Prime Minister</i>  | 685 |
| from <i>Sainthood: Elegies for Derek Jarman</i>   | 687 |
| John Stammers (1954-)   |     |
| <i>John Keats Walks Home Following a Night Spent Reading<br/>Homer with Cowden Clarke</i> | 689 |
| Carol Ann Duffy (1955-)   |     |
| <i>Woman Seated in the Underground, 1941</i>  | 690 |
| Alan Jenkins (1955-)  |     |
| from <i>The London Dissector</i>  | 691 |
| Jamie McKendrick (1955-)  |     |
| <i>Occupations of Bridewell</i>   | 694 |
| <i>Penal Architecture</i>   | 695 |
| <i>The Deadhouse</i>  | 696 |
| Mick Imlah (1956-2009)  |     |
| <i>Cockney</i>  | 698 |
| Sarah Maguire (1957-)   |     |
| <i>Almost the Equinox</i>   | 700 |
| Michael Hofmann (1957-)   |     |
| <i>From Kensal Rise to Heaven</i>   | 702 |
| <i>From A to B and Back Again</i>   | 704 |
| <i>Malvern Road</i>   | 705 |
| Maura Dooley (1957-)  |     |
| <i>Smash the Windows</i>  | 707 |
| David Kennedy (1959-)   |     |
| <i>The Bombs, July 2005</i>   | 708 |
| Fred d'Aguiar (1960-)   |     |
| <i>Home</i>   | 710 |
| Lavinia Greenlaw (1962-)  |     |
| <i>River History</i>  | 712 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Glyn Maxwell (1962-)<br><i>The Fires by the River</i>   | 715 |
| Simon Armitage (1963-)<br><i>KX</i>   | 716 |
| Alice Oswald (1966-)<br><i>Another Westminster Bridge</i>   | 717 |
| Daljit Nagra (1966-)<br><i>Yobbos!</i>  | 718 |
| Nick Laird (1975-)<br><i>The Tip</i>  | 719 |
| Heather Phillipson (1978-)<br><i>German Phenomenology Makes Me Want to<br/>Strip and Run through North London</i> | 721 |
| Ben Borek (1980-)<br>from <i>Donjong Heights</i>  | 722 |
| Tom Chivers (1983-)<br><i>Big Skies over Docklands</i>  | 725 |
| Ahren Warner (1986-)<br><i>Διόνυσος</i>   | 726 |
| Credits   | 727 |
| Index of Poets  | 735 |
| Index of Titles   | 739 |