## **Contents**

Acknowledgements	7
Introduction	9
Guyonne Leduc	
"The Stylistic Desacralization of Man in Britain in the [Sophia]	
Pamphlets (1739 – 1740)"	13
Christopher Stokes	
Desacralizing the Sign: Tooke, Stewart and Romantic Materialism	37
Barbara M. Benedict	
Satire, Sentiment and Desacralization: The Relic and the Commodity in	
Jane Austen's Novels	53
Paola Partenza	
Alfred Tennyson's De-sacralization of the Afterlife	71
Roger Ebbatson	
Seeking "the Beyond": Desacralising/Resacralising Nature in Richard	
Jefferies	91
John Fawell	
An Earthy Sacredness: Maupassant's and Van Gogh's Christianized	
Materialism	103
Simona Beccone	
Displacement-Distortion Theory and the Desacralisation of Aesthetic	
Categories: the Case Study of Hardy's "Neutral Tones"	123

Jennifer Kilgore-Caradec		
Geoffrey Hill's Serpents and Dragons	•	151
Esra Melikoglu		
"Morpho Eugenia": The Individual Struggle for Self-Realisation and the		
Question of Morality in a Darwinian World Without God	•	163
Notes on Contributors		177