

Contents

	<i>page</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	x
Introductory	1

BOOK I — EARLIER YEARS

Part I. 1929-1934

Chapter 1

<i>Oxford Poetry</i> (1925-1930). Day Lewis: <i>Beechen Vigil</i> (1925); <i>Country Comets</i> (1928). Spender: <i>Nine Experiments</i> (1928). Auden: <i>Poems</i> (1928). MacNeice: <i>Blind Fireworks</i> (1929)	11
--	----

Chapter 2

Day Lewis: <i>Transitional Poem</i> (1929); <i>From Feathers to Iron</i> (1931). Auden: <i>Poems</i> (1930; 1933); <i>The Orators</i> (1932)	21
---	----

Chapter 3

Day Lewis: <i>The Magnetic Mountain</i> (1933). Spender: <i>Twenty Poems</i> (1930); <i>Poems</i> (1933; 1934); <i>Vienna</i> (1934)	34
--	----

Part II. 1935-1936

Chapter 4

MacNeice: <i>Poems</i> (1935). Auden: 'A Happy New Year' (1932); "In the year of my youth" (1932-1933); <i>The Dance of Death</i> (1933); <i>The Dog Beneath the Skin</i> (1935)	46
---	----

Chapter 5

Day Lewis: <i>A Time to Dance</i> (1935); <i>Noah and the Waters</i> (1936). Auden: <i>Look, Stranger!</i> (1936); <i>The Ascent of F6</i> (1936); <i>Letters from Iceland</i> (1937). MacNeice: <i>Letters from Iceland</i> (1937); <i>The Agamemnon of Aeschylus</i> (1936)	57
--	----

Part III. 1937-1939

Chapter 6

Spender: <i>The Still Centre</i> (1939); <i>Trial of a Judge</i> (1938). Day Lewis: <i>Overtures to Death</i> (1938)	70
---	----

Chapter 7

MacNeice: <i>Out of the Picture</i> (1937); <i>The Earth Compels</i> (1938); <i>Autumn Journal</i> (1939)	80
---	----

Chapter 8	
Auden: <i>Spain</i> (1937); <i>Another Time</i> (1940); <i>Journey to a War</i> (1939)	88

Chapter 9	
The Coming of War	98

BOOK II — LATER YEARS

Part IV. 1940-1945

Chapter 10	
Day Lewis: <i>The Georgics of Virgil</i> (1940); <i>Poems in Wartime</i> (1940); <i>Word Over All</i> (1943); <i>Poems 1943-1947</i> (1948)	109

Chapter 11	
Spender: <i>Ruins and Visions</i> (1942); 'Destruction and Resurrection' (1942); <i>Poems of Dedication</i> (1947)	123

Chapter 12	
MacNeice: <i>The Last Ditch</i> (1940); <i>Plant and Phantom</i> (1941); <i>Springboard</i> (1944); <i>The Revenant</i> (1975)	134

Chapter 13	
Auden: <i>New Year Letter</i> (1941); <i>The Collected Poetry</i> (1945); <i>For the Time Being</i> (1945); <i>The Age of Anxiety</i> (1947; 1948)	143

Part V. 1946-1960

Chapter 14	
Spender: <i>Citizens in War — and After</i> (1945); <i>Returning to Vienna</i> (1947); <i>The Edge of Being</i> (1949)	157

Chapter 15	
Auden: <i>Nones</i> (1952); <i>The Shield of Achilles</i> (1955); <i>Goodbye to the Mezzogornio</i> (1958)	162

Chapter 16	
Day Lewis: <i>An Italian Visit</i> (1953); <i>The Aeneid of Virgil</i> (1952); <i>Pegasus and Other Poems</i> (1957); <i>The Gate and Other Poems</i> (1962)	170

Chapter 17	
MacNeice: <i>Holes in the Sky</i> (1948); <i>Collected Poems 1925-1948</i> (1949); <i>Ten Burnt Offerings</i> (1952); <i>Autumn Sequel</i> (1954); <i>Visitations</i> (1957); 'Prologue' to <i>The Character of Ireland</i> ; <i>Eighty-Five Poems</i> (1959). Auden: <i>The Old Man's Road</i> (1956); <i>Homage to Clio</i> (1960)	180

Part VI. 1960-1992	
Chapter 18	
MacNeice: <i>Solstices</i> (1961); <i>The Burning Perch</i> (1963)	189
Chapter 19	
Day Lewis: <i>The Eclogues of Virgil</i> (1963); <i>The Room and Other Poems</i> (1965); Poet Laureate; <i>The Whispering Roots</i> (1970); <i>Posthumous Poems</i> (1979)	196
Chapter 20	
Auden: <i>Collected Shorter Poems 1927-1957</i> (1966)	207
Chapter 21	
Auden: 'A Change of Air' (1961); <i>About the House</i> (1966); <i>City Without Walls</i> (1969); <i>Epistle to a Godson</i> (1972)	212
Chapter 22	
Spender: 'Pronouns in this Time' (1963); <i>The Generous Days</i> (1969; 1971); <i>Collected Poems 1928-1985</i> (1985); <i>Recent Poems</i> (1978)	223
Posthumous	232
<i>Appendix A:</i> MacSpaunday Poetry – Chronology	243
<i>Appendix B:</i> Contributions to <i>Oxford Poetry</i>	244
<i>Appendix C:</i> Auden: <i>Poems</i> , 1930; 1933	245
<i>Appendix D:</i> Auden: <i>The Orators: An English Study</i> , 1932; 1934	246
<i>Appendix E:</i> Auden: Poetry written 1932-1933	247
<i>Appendix F:</i> Auden: Poems written (or appropriated) 1934-1935	248
<i>Appendix G:</i> MacNeice: Analysis of <i>Autumn Journal</i>	249
<i>Appendix H:</i> Auden: Two Sonnet-sequences – Titles	250
<i>Appendix J:</i> Day Lewis: Laureate Poems	251
<i>Select Bibliography</i>	252
<i>References</i>	257
<i>Index</i>	259
