

Contents

Acknowledgements	7
Introduction	
The Eye and the Gaze: Goethe and the Autobiographical Subject	11
Chapter 1	
The Transformative View: Goethe's Italian Journey.....	23
The Anxiety of Flight: The Dream of Pheasants.....	26
Iphigenia: A Waking Dream.....	29
Seeing with new Eyes: Visuality and Identity.....	36
The Dangers of the Gaze.....	39
Masquerade and the Search for Meaning.....	44
Chapter 2	
Birth in Language: Goethe's Biographical Masquerade	53
The New Paris: Narcissus and the Mirror.....	68
The Gaze Revealed: A Moment of Shame.....	77
Masquerade in Sesenheim.....	83
Chapter 3	
The End of Language: Goethe, Lavater and the Eye/I of Physiognomy	95
Lavater and the Eye/I of Physiognomy: The Science of Sensitive Perception	102
The Problem of Deception.....	109
Lavater and the Triumphal Pageant: The Absent is made Present	114
Chapter 4	
Werther Fever: Cause and Cure.....	121
Goethe on Plessing: a Protoanalysis	122
Lavater/Werther: Disease of Sentimentality	125

Nature as a Cure.....	131
Goethe, Lavater and Werther.....	134
The Present Absence: Lavater and Werther in Switzerland	135
Autobiography and the Function of the Gaze	141
Chapter 5	
The Narcissistic I/Eye: Performance, Politics and Specular Lessons.....	147
Autobiography, Performance and Fiction	149
The Triumph of Excessive Sensitivity	150
How Images make Meaning.....	153
Wilhelm Meister's Education in the Meaning of Images.....	156
The Gallery of the Oheim – a new Specularity.....	158
Wilhelm Meister and the Meaning of Tableaux	162
Chapter 6	
Images of Desire: Tableaux Vivants in Goethe's <i>Elective Affinities</i>	167
The Illusion of the Objective Narrator.....	168
Luciane's Tableaux: the Cause of Desire	173
Otilie's Tableaux: The End of Desire	188
Chapter 7	
Specular Confessions: Goethe on Newton and Lavater.....	205
Goethe's Color Theory: Rhetorical Strategies.....	210
Wounding Nature: Newton's Strategy of Limitation.....	216
The Ideal Investigator	219
Werther-fever: Newton's Malady	224
Lavater, Newton and the Third Eye of Physiognomy	229
Newton's Unidirectional Gaze	235
Conclusion	
The Specular Divide.....	241
Borders and Frames	243
References.....	253
List of Illustrations.....	263
Index	265