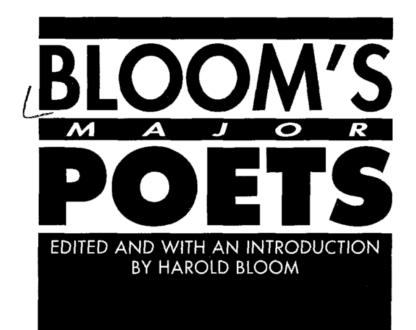
COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH AND STUDY GUIDE

John Ashbery



Philadelphia



CONTENTS

1

.7

User's Guide	7
About the Editor	8
Editor's Note	9
Introduction	11
Biography of John Ashbery	29
Critical Analysis of "Soonest Mended"	33
Critical Views on "Soonest Mended"	36
Charles Berger on Ending at the Beginning	36
John Hollander on Winnowing Fruit from Chaff	41
Harold Bloom on the Twice-Born Life	49
Vernon Shetley on Ashbery's Floating Pronouns	53
Critical Analysis of "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror"	60
Critical Views on "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror"	65
David Kalstone on Revisions Within and Without	65
Richard Stamelman on a New Kind of Ekphrasis	70
Lee Edelman on Titular Quandaries	74
Thomas Gardner on Surface and Depth	80
Critical Analysis of "Wet Casements"	86
Critical Views on "Wet Casements"	90
Harold Bloom on the Trope of American Solitude	90
David Bromwich on the Distance from "One" to "I"	96
Karen Mills-Courts on Seeking the Self	99
John Shoptaw on a Bridge Still Under Construction	106
Critical Analysis of "Syringa"	110
Critical Views on "Syringa"	113
Richard Jackson on Deconstructing Ashbery	113
Lawrence Kramer on the Two Voices of Ashbery	117
David Bromwich on Knowledge's Belated Arrival	120
John Shoptaw on the Song Lost in its Singing	126

.

Critical Analysis of "A Wave"	132
Critical Views on "A Wave"	135
James Applewhite on Ashbery and Abstraction	135
Kevin Clark on the Structure beneath the Surface	137
Edward Haworth Hoeppner on the Limits of Now	143
David Herd on the Urgencies of Love and Exclusion	149
Critical Analysis of "At North Farm"	154
Critical Views on "At North Farm"	157
Helen Vendler on Death and American Diction	157
Paul Munn on Vestigial Form	159
John Shoptaw on Ashbery's Mode of Production	163
Works by John Ashbery	168
Works about John Ashbery	170
Acknowledgments	175
Index of Themes and Ideas	178