

# Contents

- Acknowledgments ix
- Introduction xi
- 1** Radical Poetics and Radical Politics 1
  - 2** Allen Ginsberg as Representative Man: The Road to Naropa 22
  - 3** Confessional Poetics: The Poet as Representative Victim 42
  - 4** Robert Lowell: The Historical Self and The Limits of  
“Conflation” 59
  - 5** Sylvia Plath: The Mythically Fated Self 95
  - 6** Deep Images, Shallow Psychologies: The Unconscious as  
Pastoral Retreat 118
  - 7** To The Interior and Back: W. S. Merwin 136
  - 8** Ohio and the Collective Unconscious: The Dilemma of James  
Wright 157
  - 9** Black Mountain: A Critique of the Curriculum 182
  - 10** Warpless and Woofless Subtleties: John Ashbery and “Bourgeois  
Discourse” 211
- Abbreviations 237
- Notes 238
- Index 255