

CONTENTS

1	Introduction: Literary Activism, Clarity and Confusion	1
Part I	Naturalists and Nietzscheans: Codifying Clarity and Confusion	29
2	“For Love of Clarity”: Émile Zola, Practice, and the Political Potential of Realistic Literature	31
3	Grounds for Confusion: Nietzsche, Theory, and the Political Potential of Anti-Realism	63
Part II	Ambiguities of Activism: Complicating Clarity and Confusion	97
4	Between Theory and Practice: Matthew Arnold, Thomas Mann, Julien Benda, and the Purpose of the Intellectual	99
5	“Different Kinds of Clarity”: Science, Sense, and Utilitarian Realism in Bertolt Brecht	131
		xiii

6	Pressing Engagement: Jean-Paul Sartre and the Aesthetic Problem of the Political	163
7	An Other Engagement: Simone de Beauvoir and the Ethical Problem of the Political	191
8	Conclusion: Contemporary Engagements with Clarity and Confusion	219
	Works Cited	247
	Index	265