# Contents

### Acknowledgments ix

Introduction 1

### I. The Invention of Theatricality

1. Richard Wagner:

The Theatrocracy of the Mime 31

#### II. The Modernist Closet Drama

2. Stéphane Mallarmé:

The Theater in the Closet 59

3. James Joyce:

Novel and Drama in Ulysses 81

4. Gertrude Stein:

Four Saints in Three Acts—A Closet Drama to Be Performed 101

## III. The Diegetic Theater

5. William Butler Yeats:

Poetic Voices in Theatrical Space 119

6. Bertolt Brecht:

The Theater on a Leash 139

7. Samuel Beckett:

Actors in Barrels and Gestures in the Text 157

Epilogue 173

Notes 179

Bibliography 213

Index 229