

# Contents

Introduction	1
1 <i>From oral to written verse: development or depletion?</i>	7
2 <i>Ladies and gentlemen</i>	20
3 <i>The négritude movement</i>	42
4 <i>Poetry and the university, 1957–63</i>	73
5 <i>The achievement of Christopher Okigbo</i>	104
6 <i>Continuity and adaptation in Ghanaian verse, 1952–71</i>	138
7 <i>Two Ijò poets</i>	168
8 <i>'Psalmody of sunsets': The career of Lenrie Peters</i>	200
9 <i>The road to Idanre, 1959–67</i>	231
10 <i>The poet and war, 1966–70</i>	251
11 <i>The poetry of dissent, 1970–80</i>	273
12 <i>The return to orality</i>	311
A guide to availability	341
Index	346