

Contents

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Preface | ix |
| Acknowledgments | xv |
| Introduction | 3 |

1 THE “KINDLING BREATH” of the 1910s 11

Selections from

Camera Work 33

[Alfred Stieglitz, “Editorial”]— See Appendix

Gertrude Stein, “Pablo Picasso” 33

John Marin, “I know a place . . .” 35

Rogue 36

Gertrude Stein, “Aux Galeries Lafayette” 36

Mina Loy, “Three Moments in Paris,” “Virgins Plus Curtains

Minus Dots” 38

291 44

Katharine N. Rhoades, “Flip-Flap,” “Narcosis” 44

Others 48

Robert Sanborn, “Lento” 48

William Carlos Williams, “Metric Figure” 48

Edward Ramos, “Rapière à Deux Points” 49

Mary Carolyn Davies, “Later Songs” 49

Mina Loy, excerpts from *Songs to Joannes* 52

Wallace Stevens, “Thirteen Ways of Looking at a

Blackbird” 54

Daphne Carr, “Steel Town” 56

Soil 58

J. R. Coady, “Cosmopsychographical Organization”

[“American Art”]— See Appendix

Wallace Stevens, “Primordia” 58

CONTENTS

2 THE "REVOLUTION" of the Early 1920s 61

Selections from

- The Little Review** 78
Wallace Stevens, "Nuances of a Theme By Williams" 78
Else von Freytag-Loringhoven, "Buddha" 78
Mina Loy, selections from "Anglo-Mongrels and the Rose" 81
Robert McAlmon, "The black cat loops" 83
- The Dial** 85
E. E. Cummings, "Buffalo Bill's" 85
Alfred Kreyborg, "Dorothy" 85
E. E. Cummings, "O sweet spontaneous" 87
- The Measure** 89
Wallace Stevens, "New England Verses" 89
[Robert Wolf, "On the Right, Ladies and Gentleman"
(review of Cummings)]—See Appendix
Wyndham Lewis, "Notes for an Epilogue" 91
- Broom** 92
Gertrude Stein, "If You Had Three Husbands" 92
E. E. Cummings, "Sunset," "Three Portraits" 96
Wallace Stevens, "Discourse in a Cantina at Havana" 99
E. E. Cummings, "Four Poems" 101
William Carlos Williams, "Four Poems" 104
- Secession** 107
Malcom Cowley, "Day Coach," "Poem" 107
William Carlos Williams, "The Hothouse Plant" 110
[Gorham Munson, "Syrinx" (review of Cummings)]—See
Appendix
E. E. Cummings, "this evangelist" 111

3 THE "PREDOMINANT FORCE" of the Late 1920s to Early 1930s 113

Selections from

- The Exile** 128
Louis Zukofsky, "Poem Beginning 'The'" 128
Ezra Pound, "Part of Canto XXIII" 138
William Carlos Williams, excerpt from "The Descent of
Winter" 140
- transition** 151
Sidney Hunt, "white limp droop, UP" 151
Yvor Winters, "Bison" 151
Louis Zukofsky, "Cocktails" 152
["Revolution of the Word" (Contents)]—See Appendix
[Marius Lyle, "Scheme for Physical Improvement of Writers'
Medium"]—See Appendix

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| Hound & Horn | 153 | |
| S. Foster Damon, "The Great Experiment" | 153 | |
| William Carlos Williams, "Rain," "In the 'Sconset Bus" | | 160 |
| Blues | 165 | |
| Charles Henri Ford, "Group" | 165 | |
| Parker Tyler, "Sonnet" | 166 | |
| Pauline Leader, "Poem" | 168 | |
| Charles Henri Ford, "Frustrations: Four from Tension" | | 168 |
| Gertrude Stein, "George Hugnet" | 171 | |
| Walter Lowenfels, "Antipodes" | 172 | |
| Laurence Vail, "Meek Madness in Capri or Suicide for Effect" | 174 | |
| Augustus Tiberius, "Cessableinack" | 181 | |
| Parker Tyler, "Poem to F. M." | 182 | |
| William Carlos Williams, "The Attic Which Is Desire," "The Moon—" | 185 | |
| Charles Henri Ford, "Are Poems" | 187 | |
| Louis Zukofsky, "Tibor Serly" | 188 | |
| Pogany | 190 | |
| Kathleen Tankersley Young, "Poem" | 190 | |
| Gertrude Stein, "Five Words in a Line" | 190 | |
| Kenneth Rexroth, "Into the Shandy Westernness" | 192 | |
| Charles Henri Ford, "Poem," "These Too," "This Kind of Death" | 195 | |
| Yvor Winters, "Wild Sunflower," "Idaho," "To the Painter Polelonema" | 196 | |
| Sidney Hunt, "Is Pleasure" | 198 | |
| Yvor Winters, "Snow-Ghost" | 199 | |
| Parker Tyler, "Dream of the Erotic (An Essay in Articulate Typography)" | 199 | |
| Georges Hugnet, "Enfances" | 203 | |
| Gertrude Stein, "Poem Pritten on Pfances of Georges Hugnet" | 217 | |
| Louis Zukofsky, "'A' (First Movement): 'Come Ye Daughters'" | 229 | |

4 THE WANING OF CUBISM in the Late 1930s to Early 1940s 234

Selections from

| | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| Contact | 255 | |
| E. E. Cummings, "let's start a magazine," "ondumonde" | | 255 |
| Louis Zukofsky, "Song 9" | 257 | |
| Trend | 258 | |
| James Henry Sullivan, "portrait" | 258 | |

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----|
| New Directions in Poetry and Prose (1936) | 259 |
| Wallace Stevens, "A Thought Revolved" | 259 |
| William Carlos Williams, "Perpetuum Mobile: The City" | 261 |
| Louis Zukofsky, "Mantis," "Mantis: An Interpretation" | 266 |
| Furioso | 274 |
| Pat Hynes, "Reg. Imp" | 274 |
| E. E. Cummings, "blac" | 274 |
| Wallace Stevens, "Les Plus Belles Pages" | 275 |
| Ernest Kroll, "The Problem," "The Swifts" | 275 |
| View | 277 |
| Wallace Stevens, "Materia Poetica" | 277 |
| | |
| Conclusion | 280 |
| | |
| Appendix | 285 |
| Alfred Stieglitz, Editorial, <i>Camera Work</i> | 285 |
| R. J. Coady, "American Art," <i>Soil</i> | 286 |
| Robert L. Wolf, "On the Right, Ladies and Gentlemen," <i>The Measure</i> | 288 |
| Gorham Munson, "Syrinx," <i>Secession</i> | 292 |
| "Revolution of the Word," <i>transition</i> | 303 |
| Marius Lyle, "Scheme for Physical Improvement of Writers' Medium," <i>transition</i> | 305 |
| | |
| Notes | 311 |
| Select Bibliography | 327 |
| Index | 333 |