CONTENTS

List of Illustrations xi

Introduction: On Spirals 1

1 Definitions: A Brief History of Spirals (and a Way of Reading Spirally) 21

2 Entering the Whirlpool: 'Pataphysics, Futurism, Vorticism 43

3 Twinned Towers: Yeats, Tatlin, and the Unfashionable Performance of Internationalism 73

4 L’Habite en Spirale: Duchamp, Joyce, and the Ineluctable Visibility of Entropy 111

5 At the End of the Jetty: Beckett . . . Smithson. Recoil . . Return 161

In Conclusion: The Spiral and the Grid 187

Notes 227 Acknowledgments 275 Index 279

Color plates follow page 160