

Contents

1. The Anatomy of Creative Courage 1
2. Chaucer: The Man in the Fourteenth-Century Street 17
3. Dürer: A Strong Smell of Printer's Ink 35
4. Shakespeare: Glimpses of an Unknown Colossus 49
5. J. S. Bach: The Genetics of the Organ Loft 77
6. Turner and Hokusai: Apocalypse Now and Then 94
7. Jane Austen: Shall We Join the Ladies? 114
8. A. W. N. Pugin and Viollet-le-Duc:
Goths for All Seasons 136
9. Victor Hugo: The Genius Without a Brain 153
10. Mark Twain: How to Tell a Joke 170
11. Tiffany: Through a Glass Darkly 186
12. T. S. Eliot: The Last Poet to Wear Spats 203
13. Balenciaga and Dior:
The Aesthetics of a Buttonhole 225
14. Picasso and Walt Disney:
Room for Nature in a Modern World? 247
15. Metaphors in a Laboratory 276

Notes 287

Index 301