LYRIC AND LABOUR
IN THE ROMANTIC TRADITION

*Lyric and Labour in the Romantic Tradition* examines the legacy of romantic poetics in the poetry produced in political movements during the nineteenth century. It argues that a communitarian tradition of poetry extending from the 1790s to the 1890s learned from and incorporated elements of romantic lyricism, and produced an ongoing and self-conscious tradition of radical poetics. Showing how romantic lyricism arose as an engagement between the forces of reason and custom, Anne Janowitz examines the ways in which this romantic dialectic inflected the writings of political poets from Thomas Spence to William Morris. The book includes new readings of familiar romantic poets including Wordsworth and Shelley, and investigates the range of poetic genres in the 1790s. In the case studies which follow, it examines relatively unknown Chartist and republican poets such as Ernest Jones and W. J. Linton, showing their affiliation to the romantic tradition, and making the case for the persistence of romantic problematics in radical political culture.

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Front page, *Northern Star*, 22 August 1846.
LYRIC AND LABOUR
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ANNE JANOWITZ
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521572590

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First published 1998
This digitally printed first paperback version 2005

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data
Janowitz, Anne F.
Lyric and labour in the romantic tradition/Anne Janowitz.
p. cm. – (Cambridge studies in Romanticism)
ISBN 0 521 57259 2 (hardback)
1. English poetry – 19th century – History and criticism.
4. Political poetry, English – History and criticism.
9. Chartism in literature. I. Title. II. Series.
PR585. H5J36 1998
821 .809358–dc21 97–40831 CIP

ISBN-10 0-521-57259-2 hardback

ISBN-10 0-521-02296-7 paperback
for
Patrick
and
Alice and Ellen
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Front page, *Northern Star*, 22 August 1846. By permission of the British Library *frontispiece*

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Acknowledgements

Thanks to the Series Editors, Marilyn Butler and James Chandler, for encouraging my work in this study, and to Isobel Armstrong and William Keach who each read this manuscript at an earlier stage – both generous and enthusiastic readers. Mary Campbell, James Epstein, Kevin Gilmartin, Cora Kaplan, Michael McKeon, Jeremy Treglown, and David Worrall also read chapters and offered good advice.

Many thanks to Josie Dixon of Cambridge University Press. She is a brilliant and kind Romanticist and editor, and I have valued her advice and encouragement. Thanks to Hilary Stock and to the staff at Cambridge University Press who made the final stages of production easy and pleasant.

My dear friend and colleague Michael T. Gilmore read the manuscript from start to finish. His work on early American poetry provided the starting point for this study. I have greatly benefited from his advice and help over many years.

I was privileged to present portions of this material as papers and lectures at Brandeis University, Rutgers University, the Center for Literary and Cultural Studies of Harvard University, the Universities of Zurich, Southampton, East London, Keele, Oxford, and my new home institution, The University of Warwick. I hope I have made good use of the comments offered on those occasions.

I would like to thank the following friends and colleagues for information, advice, and good cheer: Derek Attridge, Bridget Bennett, Marilyn Butler, Mary Campbell, Ed Cohen, Shirley Dent, Daria Donnelly, Maud Ellmann, James Epstein, Sandy Flitterman-Lewis, Neil Fraistat, Paul Hamilton, Henry Janowitz, Cora Kaplan, William Keach, Marianne DeKoven, Catherine LaFarge, Peter Mack, Emma Mason, Michael McKeon, Pamela
Acknowledgments

Mosher, Barry Qualls, Stephen Roberts, Nicholas Roe, Barbara Rosenbaum, Michael Scrivener, Pam Singer, Helen Taylor, Dorothy Thompson, Adeline Tintner, Jeremy Treglown, Deborah Valenze, Dror Wahrman, Carolyn Williams, Tom Winnifrith, Sue Wiseman, and David Worrall. Ulli Freer and others on the staff at the British Library, Bloomsbury Reading Rooms, made my work much easier. Thanks to John Hopson, British Library Archivist, for information on W. J. Linton’s relation with the British Museum. I am very grateful to Barbara Rosenbaum for her conversation and her eye for detail.

I began work on this project while I held a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship in 1991–1992.

The article upon which parts of Chapter 3 are based was published in At the Limits of Romanticism, edited by Mary A. Favret and Nicola J. Watson (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1994); the article upon which parts of Chapter 5 are based was published in The Politics of the Picturesque, edited by Steven Copley and Peter Garside (Cambridge University Press, 1994).

This study is dedicated to Patrick Sikorski, and to my friends in the USA, Ellen Fitzpatrick and Alice Kelikian.