This new Cambridge History is the first major history of twentieth-century English literature to cover the full range of writing in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland. The volume also explores the impact of writing from the former colonies on English literature of the period and analyses the ways in which conventional literary genres were shaped and inflected by the new cultural technologies of radio, cinema and television. In providing an authoritative narrative of literary and cultural production across the century, this History acknowledges the claims for innovation and modernisation that characterise the beginning of the period. At the same time, it attends analytically to the more profound patterns of continuity and development which avant-garde tendencies characteristically underplay. Containing all the virtues of a Cambridge History, this new volume is a major event for anyone concerned with twentieth-century literature, its cultural context and its relation to the contemporary.

Laura Marcus is Professor of English at the University of Sussex, and co-director of its Centre for Modernist Studies. She has published widely on nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature and culture. Her publications include Auto/biographical Discourses: Criticism, Theory, Practice (1994/8) and Virginia Woolf (1997/2004), and, as editor, Sigmund Freud’s ‘The Interpretation of Dreams’: New Interdisciplinary Essays (1999) and Close Up 1927–33: Cinema and Modernism (1998).

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The New Cambridge History of English Literature is a programme of reference works designed to offer a broad synthesis and contextual survey of the history of English literature through the major periods of its development. The organisation of each volume reflects the particular characteristics of the period covered, within a general commitment to providing an accessible narrative history through a linked sequence of essays by internationally renowned scholars. The History is designed to accommodate the range of insights and fresh perspectives brought by new approaches to the subject, without losing sight of the need for essential exposition and information. The volumes include valuable reference features, including extensive bibliographies and a full index.

The Cambridge History of Medieval English Literature
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The Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century English Literature
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In preparation
The Cambridge History of English Romantic Literature
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THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF TWENTIETH-CENTURY ENGLISH LITERATURE

Edited by
LAURA MARCUS
and
PETER NICHOLLS
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