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The essays in this volume explore the ways in which traditional philosophical problems about self-knowledge, self-identity, and value have migrated into literature since the Romantic and Idealist periods. How do so-called literary works take up these problems in a new way? What conception of the subject is involved in this literary practice? How are the lines of demarcation between philosophy and literature problematized? The contributors examine these issues with reference both to Romantic and Idealist writers and to some of their subsequent literary and philosophical inheritors and revisers. Their essays offer a philosophical understanding of the roots and nature of contemporary literary and philosophical practice, and elaborate powerful and influential, but rarely decisively articulated, conceptions of the human subject and of value.

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*Series editors*

SALIM KEMAL *and* IVAN GASKELL

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# Beyond representation

## Philosophy and poetic imagination

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*Edited by*

RICHARD ELDRIDGE

*Swarthmore College*



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## Editor's acknowledgments

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Samuel Fleischacker's essay is a somewhat revised version of an essay entitled "Frustrated Contracts, Poetry, and Truth" that appeared in *Raritan* 13: 4 (Spring 1994), and it appears here in its present form with the author's and the journal editor's permission. The essay by Philippe Lacoue-Labarthe and Jean-Luc Nancy first appeared in French as "Scène: un échange de lettres" in *Nouvelle revue de psychanalyse* 46 (Autumn 1992). Its translation for its first appearance in English in this volume was very ably done by Maiko Behr. The essay appears here with the permission of the authors. Christine Battersby's essay forms part of a projected larger work, and she retains its copyright.

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