

CONTENTS

<i>List of Plates</i>	<i>page x</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>xiv</i>
Prologue	1
1 Who Was Mary Magdalene?	7
Three Marys in One Person	7
A Follower of Jesus	12
The Magdalene	20
A Mingling of Marys	28
The Gnostic Mary	33
A Catena of Confusions	43
2 The ‘Lives’ of Mary Magdalene	55
The Many Lives of Mary	55
The Vitae Eremiticae	57
‘A Sermon in Veneration of Saint Mary Magdalene’	70
Sitting at the Feet of Jesus	77
A Vita Apostolica	85
A Wedding in Cana	89
A <i>Vita Apostolico-Eremitica</i>	100
3 The ‘Afterlives’ of Mary Magdalene	112
Remains to Be Seen	112
Treasures upon Earth	123

 Contents

Oriental Imaginings: Mary in Palestine and Ephesus	130
Byzantine Travels: From Ephesus to Constantinople	140
The French Correction: A Body in Vézelay Relics, Reliquaries, and Remnants in Saint Maximin	148 157
4 Mary Divided: Sacred and Profane	169
Three Marys, Two, or One? The Quarrel of the Magdalene	169
The Church Fights Back	183
A Woman for All Seasons	187
A Woman Preaching	198
Mary, Loving and Much Loved	203
Mary, Sacred and Profane	206
The Thoroughly Early Modern Mary	209
5 Many Magdalenes: Redeemed and Redeeming	215
The Magdalenes	215
A Woman Possessed?	225
Mary, Devoted and Domesticated	233
A Woman of Distinction?	244
Rossetti's Merrymaking Mary	248
6 Mary Magdalene: Lover and Wife	257
Mary and <i>The Da Vinci Code</i>	257
Holy Blood, Holy Grail	264
Mary the Goddess	273
The Cathar Connection	279
Jesus, Mary, and the Essenes	285

Contents

‘The Gospel of Jesus’s Wife’	295
The Last Temptation	306
Epilogue: On Myth and History	311
<i>Bibliography</i>	316
<i>Index</i>	335

The colour plate section can be found between xvi and 1.