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FRENCH LITERATURE

In this authoritative and accessible account of French literature, sixteen essays by leading specialists offer provocative insights into French literary culture: its genres, movements, themes, and historic turning points, including the cultural and linguistic challenges of today's multi-ethnic France. The French have, over the centuries, invented and reinvented writing, from the Arthurian romances of Chrétien de Troyes to Montaigne's *Essais*, which gave the world a new literary form and a new standard for writing about personal thought and experience; from the highly polished tragedies of French classicism to the satirical novels of the Enlightenment; from Proust's explorations of social and sexual mores to the 'new novel' of the late twentieth century; and from Baudelaire's urban poetry to today's poetic experiments with sound and typography. The broad scope of this *Companion*, which goes beyond individual authors and periods, enables a deeper appreciation for the distinctive literature of France.

John D. Lyons is Commonwealth Professor of French at the University of Virginia, and Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur. He is the author of eight books on French literature, including *French Literature: A Very Short Introduction* (2010), and *The Phantom of Chance: From Fortune to Randomness in Seventeenth-Century French Literature* (2011).

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CAMBRIDGE
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University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781107665224

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First published 2016

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ International Ltd. Padstow Cornwall

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

Library of Congress Cataloguing in Publication data

The Cambridge companion to French literature / edited by John D. Lyons.
 pages cm. – (Cambridge companions to literature)

ISBN 978-1-107-03604-8 (hardback)

1. French literature – History and criticism. 2. French literature – French-speaking countries – History and criticism. I. Lyons, John D., 1946– editor.

PQ103.L95 2015

840.9–dc23

2015022170

ISBN 978-1-107-03604-8 Hardback

ISBN 978-1-107-66522-4 Paperback

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1990 (2003), *Fiction Now: The French Novel in the Twenty-First Century* (2008), and *Mirror Gazing* (2014).

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- 1802 François-René, Vicomte de Chateaubriand, *Le Génie du christianisme* [*The Genius of Christianity*]
- 1831 Victor Hugo, *Notre-Dame de Paris* [*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*]
- 1837–43 Honoré de Balzac, *Les Illusions perdues* [*Lost Illusions*]
- 1857 Gustave Flaubert, *Madame Bovary*
- 1857–68 Charles Baudelaire, *Les Fleurs du mal* [*The Flowers of Evil*]
- 1871–93 Émile Zola, *Les Rougon-Macquart*
- 1873 Arthur Rimbaud, *Une saison en enfer* [*A Season in Hell*]
- 1896 Henri Bergson, *Matière et mémoire* [*Matter and Memory*]
- 1897 Stéphane Mallarmé, *Un coup de dés jamais n'abolira le hasard* [*A Throw of the Dice Will Never Abolish Chance*]
- 1900 Colette, *Claudine à l'école* [*Claudine at School*]
- 1913 Guillaume Apollinaire, *Alcools*
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- 1924 André Breton, first *Manifeste du surréalisme* [*Manifesto of Surrealism*]
- 1925 André Gide, *Les Faux-Monnayeurs* [*The Counterfeiters*]
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- 1936 Georges Bernanos, *Le Journal d'un curé de campagne* [*The Diary of a Country Priest*]
- 1938 Jean-Paul Sartre, *La Nausée* [*Nausea*]
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| 1943 | Georges Bataille, <i>L'Expérience intérieure</i> [<i>Inner Experience</i>] |
| 1949 | Simone de Beauvoir, <i>Le Deuxième Sexe</i> [<i>The Second Sex</i>] |
| 1951 | Marguerite Yourcenar, <i>Les Mémoires d'Hadrien</i> [<i>Memoirs of Hadrian</i>] |
| 1952 | Samuel Beckett, <i>Waiting for Godot</i> / <i>En attendant Godot</i> |
| 1955 | Maurice Blanchot, <i>L'Espace littéraire</i> [<i>The Space of Literature</i>] |
| 1957 | Alain Robbe-Grillet, <i>La Jalousie</i> [<i>Jealousy</i>] |
| 1958 | Marguerite Duras, <i>Moderato Cantabile</i> |
| 1960 | Claude Simon, <i>La Route des Flandres</i> [<i>The Flanders Road</i>] |
| 1961 | Franz Fanon, <i>Les Damnés de la Terre</i> [<i>The Wretched of the Earth</i>] |
| 1975 | Hélène Cixous, <i>Le Rire de la méduse</i> [<i>The Laugh of the Medusa</i>] |
| | Marie Cardinal, <i>Les Mots pour le dire</i> [<i>The Words to Say It</i>] |
| 1977 | Roland Barthes, <i>Fragments d'un discours amoureux</i> [<i>A Lover's Discourse: Fragments</i>] |
| 1980 | J.-M. G. Le Clézio, <i>Désert</i> |
| | Jacques Derrida, <i>La Carte postale</i> [<i>The Postcard</i>] |
| 1992 | Emmanuel Hocquard, <i>La Théorie des tables</i> [<i>Theory of Tables</i>] |
| 1995 | Andreï Makine, <i>Le Testament français</i> [<i>The French Testament</i>] |
| 2007 | <i>Pour une 'littérature-monde' en français</i> [<i>Manifesto for a World Literature in French</i>] |
| 2009 | Marie NDiaye, <i>Trois Femmes puissantes</i> [<i>Three Powerful Women</i>] |