
Contents

Preface 13

Margaret Atwood

If You Can't Say Something Nice, Don't Say Anything At All 15

Himani Bannerji

The Sound Barrier

Translating Ourselves in Language and Experience 26

Roo Borson

Within the Net 41

Dionne Brand

Bread Out of Stone 45

Di Brandt

letting the silence speak 54

June Callwood

The Ovarian Imperative 59

Anne Cameron

The Operative Principle Is Trust 63

Elsbeth Cameron

Biography and Feminism 72

Susan Crean

Writing Along Gender Lines 83

Lorna Crozier

Speaking the Flesh 91

Beverley Daurio

The Problem of Desire 95

Mary di Michele

Conversations with the Living and the Dead 100

Sandy Frances Duncan

About My Name 107

Barbara Godard

Becoming My Hero, Becoming Myself

Notes Towards a Feminist Theory of Reading 112

Leona Gom

Voices 123

Kristjana Gunnars

The Present 126

Claire Harris

Ole Talk

A Sketch 131

Margaret Hollingsworth

Musings on the Feminist Muse

New Year's Day, 1990 142

Janette Turner Hospital

Letter to the Editors 146

Linda Hutcheon

The Particular Meets the Universal 148

Edith Iglauer

About Women and Writing 152

Ann Ireland

Never a Cowgirl 156

Paulette Jiles

Third Force Feminism 160

Janice Kulyk Keefer

Gender, Language, Genre 164

Lenore Keeshig-Tobias

The Magic of Others 173

Dorothy Livesay

Poetry Is for People

An interview by Pamela Banting and Kristjana Gunnars 178

Lee Maracle

Native Myths

Trickster Alive and Crowing 182

Daphne Marlatt

Difference (em)bracing 188

Mary Meigs

My Evolution as a Lesbian Feminist Writer 194

Kathy Mezei

A Tension of Isms 197

Erin Moure

Poetry, Memory and the Polis 201

Marlene Nourbese Philip

The Disappearing Debate

Racism and Censorship 209

Erika Ritter

I Only Laugh When It Hurts; That Can't Be Right 220

Jane Rule

Deception in Search of the Truth 225

Libby Scheier

Chopped Liver 229

Gail Scott

A Feminist at the Carnival 241

Carol Shields

The Same Ticking Clock 256

Susan Swan

Desire and the Mythology of Femininity 260

Judith Thompson

One Twelfth 263

Rhea Tregebov

Some Notes on the Story of Esther 268

Aritha van Herk

Of Viscera and Vital Questions 272

Betsy Warland

the breasts refuse 279

Phyllis Webb

Message Machine 293

Helen Weinzwieg

The Interrupted Sex 297

Contributors' Notes 302