Contents

Acknowledgments vii

INTRODUCTION. Cormac McCarthy, Center Stage 1

CHAPTER ONE. First Forays: Early Film Interest and The Gardener's Son 15

CHAPTER TWO. The Unproduced Screenplays: "Cities of the Plain," "Whales and Men," and "No Country for Old Men" 41

CHAPTER THREE. Works for Theater: The Stonemason and The Sunset Limited 69

CHAPTER FOUR. Keeping the Faith: All the Pretty Horses and The Road 93

CHAPTER FIVE. Tragic Success Stories: No Country for Old Men and The Sunset Limited 133

CHAPTER SIX. Great Expectations: The Counselor and Child of God 163

CONCLUSION. Bears That Dance, Bears That Don't: The Attempts to Adapt *Blood Meridian* 201

Notes 213
Bibliography 221
Index 237