### CONTENTS



List of Illustrations xiii

Preface xix

### A CLIMATE FOR MODERNISM

"Make it New!" 3

Misreading Modernism 10

An Array of Prerequisites 17

### Part One: FOUNDERS

### 1. PROFESSIONAL OUTSIDERS 33

The Heroism of Modern Life 33
Art for Artists' Sake 51

### 2. IRRECONCILABLES AND IMPRESARIOS 69

1900 69

A New Way of Seeing 72

Middlemen as Pedagogues 87

### Part Two: CLASSICS

# 3. PAINTING AND SCULPTURE— THE MADNESS OF THE UNEXPECTED 10.3

Self-Absorption: Expressive Inwardness 108
Self-Absorption: The Germans 121

Mystical Modernism 129

Anarchists and Authoritarians 142

Picasso: The One-Man Band 151

L.H.O.O.Q. 160

Anti-Mimesis 168

### 4. PROSE AND POETRY— INTERMITTENCES OF THE HEART 181

The New Fiction 181

Defying Mr. Bennett 186

Four Modern Masters 194

Kafka 214

The Poet of Poets 219

## 5. MUSIC AND DANCE— THE LIBERATION OF SOUND 232

Overtures 231

Modernists: Pacesetters 234

Modernists: Arnold Schoenberg 244

Modernists: Igor Stravinsky 256

Lesser Titans 263

The Balanchine Era 269

# 6. ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN— MACHINERY, A NEW FACTOR IN HUMAN AFFAIRS 281

"There's nothing more important than architecture" 281

"A house is a machine for living in" 290

"Good proportions and practical simplicity" 312

"Hitler is my best friend" 319

"Beauty waiting for us" 323

### 7. DRAMA AND MOVIES— THE HUMAN ELEMENT 335

"Merdre!" 337

An Autobiographer and Others 343

The New Man 351

The Only All-Modern Art 358

### Part Three: ENDINGS

### 8. ECCENTRICS AND BARBARIANS 395

Anti-Modern Modernists: After Strange Gods 397
Anti-Modern Modernists: A Local Genius 401
Anti-Modern Modernists: A Nordic Psychologist 409
Barbarians: Hitler's Germany 417
Barbarians: Stalin's Soviet Union 426
Barbarians: Mussolini's Italy 433

#### 9. LIFE AFTER DEATH? 442

Clearing the Slate 442

An Age of Ingenuity 460

Success 479

Signs of Life 487

CODA: AND GEHRY AT BILBAO 501

Notes 511

Bibliographical Essay 531

Acknowledgments 565

Credits 569

Index 573