

# Contents

Preface .....	7
Introduction: Who is G. E. Lessing and What is this Book About?.....	13

## PART I: SEEING AND IMAGES—THEORETICAL CONCERNS

Chapter 1: Lessing: Ekphrasis and the Art of Understatement .....	31
Chapter 2: Diderot and Lessing: Minimalism and Sketches .....	65
Chapter 3: Fables as Visual Texts but Brevity Matters.....	85
Chapter 4: Lessing's <i>Laokoon</i> and <i>Paralipomena</i> .....	107
Chapter 5: Drama Theory: Lessing's <i>Hamburg Dramaturgy</i> as <i>Fermenta cognitionis</i> ....	139

## PART II: EXPERIMENTS AND STAGING POIGNANT MOMENTS

Chapter 6: <i>The Matron of Ephesus</i> (1748–1771): Expressing Introversion .....	167
Chapter 7: <i>Miß Sara Sampson</i> (1755): Exhibiting Emotions and Problems with Wordiness.....	189
Chapter 8: <i>D. Faust</i> and <i>Fatime</i> (1755–1759): Time Split and the Speed of the Real.....	221
Chapter 9: <i>Minna von Barnhelm</i> (1767): Unemployment and Staging the Self for Other(s) .....	245
Chapter 10: <i>Emilia Galotti</i> (1772): Portraits and Displacements .....	271

## PART III: VISUAL-VERBAL DYNAMICS IN LESSING'S LATE WORKS

Chapter 11: <i>Ernst and Falk</i> (1778): Lessing's Metaphor "Wolfsmilchraupe".....	307
Chapter 12: <i>A Parable of the Burning Palace</i> (1778): Lessing and Eco .....	331
Chapter 13: <i>Nathan the Wise</i> (1779): Search for the Ring and the Missing Queen in the Chess Game.....	355
Chapter 14: <i>The Education of Humankind</i> (1780): Why Lessing Chose the Left Hand.....	377
Bibliography .....	395
Index .....	421