

Contents

List of Figures	ix
Notes on Translation and Transliteration	xi
Acknowledgements	xiii
Introduction	1
A History of Hungryalism?	1
The Global and the Bengali Sixties	4
Fragmented Histories, Fragmented Sources	9
Defining Hungryalism: Movement or Generation?	11
Myths of Foundation	13
The Trial on Charges of Obscenity	17
Obscenity, Sexuality and Masculinity	24
The Male Gaze and Hyper-Masculinity as Filters of Interpretation	27
A Transgressive Approach to the Sources	30
State of the Art	35
Overview of the Content	37
 1 “Poetry is No More a Civilizing Manoeuvre”: Language and Materiality	 39
The Little Magazine	41
The Manifesto	45
Ephemera and Paratextual Material	53
Consumption and Modernisation in the Hungryalist Language	59
 2 “I’ll Kick All the Literary Trash in the Ass”: Hunger and the Aesthetics of Transgression	 67
Hunger	67
Food and Eating Metaphors	70
Art as Vomit and Indigestion	72
Rice and Empty Bellies	73
Alcohol	76
The Myth of Absinthe	77
The New āḍḍā at Khalasitala	79
Psychedelic Drugs and Ganja	81

3	"A Band of Young Bengalis with Tigers in their Tanks": Modernism, Postmodernism and the Avant-garde	85
	Bengali Modernism and "Western Influence"	87
	The French Décadence	90
	Hints of Romanticism and Existentialism	94
	Mapping the Avant-garde in India	97
	An Avant-garde Network	99
	Bengali Postmodernism or Adhunāntik	103
4	"I Want to Use You Like Amul Butter": Hyper-masculinity and the Objectification of Bodies	109
	Aesthetics of Rape and Consumption	112
	A Clinical Gaze on Shubha's Body	117
	Masturbation as a Trope of the Avant-garde	120
	Masturbation in "Stark Electric Jesus"	122
5	"I Won't Be Able to Become Devdas with my Unhappy Penis": Anxious Masculinity in Phalguni Ray's <i>Television of a Rotten Soul</i>	125
	Phalguni's Poetic World	125
	Tropes and Language in <i>Television of a Rotten Soul</i>	130
	<i>Television of a Rotten Soul</i> (Naṣṭa ātmār ṭelibhisan)	135
	<i>Indifferent Charminar</i> (Nirbikār cārminār)	147
	<i>Black Divinity</i> (Kālo dibyatā) and <i>Artificial Snake</i> (Kṛtrim sāp)	153
	Film Scripts: Family Planning, Modernisation and Body Commodification	156
	The Womb and the Foetus: Subverting Hindu Symbolism	157
	The Human Body on Television Sets	160
	Decolonising Language: The Spectacles of Bengali Identity	164
	Breaking Down Language	167
	Phalguni Ray, a Postcolonial Poet?	171
6	"Tropical Kerouacs and Gangetic Ginsbergs": Avant-Garde as a Worlding Practice	173
	In Allen's Eyes: The Hungry-Beat Connection	173
	Hippies and Beats in India	174
	Ginsberg's <i>Indian Journals</i> : Appropriation and Distortion	177
	Re-writing Kali the American way	179
	"Tropical Kerouacs and Gangetic Ginsbergs": Mimicking the Beats and the U.S.	183
	Resisting the Beats' Influence	188
	Use of English in Hungryalist Literature	190

Translating Hungryalism: the "Hungry!" Special Issues of <i>Salted Feathers</i> and <i>Intrepid</i> Magazines	194
Practices of Translation: Reluctance and Adaptation	196
Constructing the English Canon of Hungryalism	200
Concluding Remarks	205
7 Hungryalist Texts in English Translation	213
Manifestoes	213
Hungryalist Poetry	223
Bibliography	285
Index	305