

Contents

Acknowledgements	7
Introduction	9
I. Revolution's Landscape and the Political Carnavalesque	23
a. The New Geography of Bucharest	24
December 1989	27
January-April 1990	31
'The liberated zone from neo-communism'	33
The miners are coming	41
b. Revolution's Urban Body	46
The demasking of the communist body	48
Revolution's co-option	51
The University Square 'hooligans'	54
c. The Noises and the Signs of Revolution	57
The December signs	58
The Revolution's eye	65
d. The 'Retro-Carnival' of 1995	75
II. Memory as Forgetting. Bucharest's Civic Centre	83
a. The Cautionary Tale	84
b. The National Tale of a City Digesting Its Intruder	91
III. The Narrativization of Bucharest	101
a. Pre-1989 Bucharest, a Forlorn City	102
b. Post-1989 Bucharest, the City of Homecomings and Arrivals	110
Coming 'home'	111
Arriving	121
IV. Revolution's Explanations and Apologies	127
a. Why the Poets?	128

b. Explanations and Apologies	134
c. Western Influence.....	140
V. Popular Culture and Revolution's Book	151
a. Revolution's Hunger for Books	155
b. Revolution's Publishers	157
c. The Popular Book.....	168
d. The Best-seller and Male Fiction	172
e. Romanian Romance and American Sandra Brown	181
VI. Revolution's Active Readers.....	189
a. Revolution's New Readers.....	191
b. The Mediation and Selling of Revolution's Book	194
c. Piracy and the Reader	202
Afterword	207
Index of Names.....	211
Bibliography	215