

Contents

Edward Saunders

Introduction: Theory of Biography or Biography in Theory? — 1

Samuel Johnson

***The Rambler* 60 (13 October 1750) — 9**

Samuel Johnson

***The Idler* 24 (24 November 1759) — 13**

Caitríona Ní Dhúill

Samuel Johnson's Advice to Biographers — 15

Johann Gottfried Herder

Fifth Letter on the Furtherance of Humanity (1793) — 19

Tobias Heinrich

The Living Memory of Biography: Johann Gottfried Herder's 'Fifth Letter on the Furtherance of Humanity' — 22

Thomas Carlyle

On Heroes, Hero-Worship, and The Heroic in History [Extract] (1840) — 27

Caitríona Ní Dhúill

World History as Heroic Biography: Thomas Carlyle's 'Great Men' — 30

Wilhelm Dilthey

Plan for the Continuation of the Formation of the Historical World in the Human Sciences [Extract] [1904–10] — 35

Wilhelm Hemecker

Between Art and Academia: Wilhelm Dilthey's Theory of Biography — 41

Marcel Proust

The Method of Sainte-Beuve [Extract] [1909] — 47

Edward Saunders

Against Biographical Interpretation: Marcel Proust's Attack on Sainte-Beuve — 55

Sigmund Freud

Leonardo da Vinci and a Memory of His Childhood [Extract] (1910) — 61

Wilhelm Hemecker

The Riddles of Sigmund Freud's *Leonardo* – Biography, Case History, or ...? — 68

Lytton Strachey

Preface to *Eminent Victorians* (1918) — 76

Caitríona Ní Dhúill

Biography as Exposure: Lytton Strachey's *Eminent Victorians* — 78

Boris Tomashevsky

Literature and Biography (1923) — 83

Edward Saunders

**In Search of the Literary Fact: Boris Tomashevsky and the Limits
of the Biographical Approach — 91**

Sergei Tretiakov

The Biography of the Object (1929) — 97

Bernhard Fetz

**In the Name of the Collective: Sergei Tretiakov's Plea for a Biography
of the Object — 101**

Siegfried Kracauer

The Biography as an Art Form of the New Bourgeoisie (1930) — 107

Esther Marian

**How to Make Employees Matter: Siegfried Kracauer's Critique
of Biography — 112**

Virginia Woolf

The New Biography (1927) — 119

Virginia Woolf

The Art of Biography (1939) — 124

Manfred Mittermayer

**The Biographical Craft: Virginia Woolf's Contributions to the Theory of
Biography — 131**

Stefan Zweig

History as a Poetess (1943) — 136

Cornelius Mitterer

**Biography between Poetry and History: Stefan Zweig's
'History as a Poetess' — 148**

Jean-Paul Sartre

The Progressive-Regressive Method [Extract] (1957) — 155

Albert Dikovich

Tracing the ‘*projet original*’: Jean-Paul Sartre’s Biographical Hermeneutics — 166

Roland Barthes

Sade, Fourier, Loyola [Extract] (1971) — 175

David Österle

A Life in Memory Fragments: Roland Barthes’s ‘Biographemes’ — 178

James Clifford

‘Hanging Up Looking Glasses at Odd Corners’: Ethnobiographical Prospects (1978) — 186

Edward Saunders

Provincializing the Biographical Subject: James Clifford’s Manifesto for a ‘Less Centred’ Biography — 198

Carolyn Steedman

Landscape for a Good Woman [Extract] (1986) — 204

Caitríona Ní Dhúill

Intersectional Biography: Class, Gender, and Genre in Carolyn Steedman’s *Landscape for a Good Woman* — 206

Pierre Bourdieu

The Biographical Illusion (1986) — 210

Marie Kolkenbrock

Life as Trajectory: Pierre Bourdieu’s ‘The Biographical Illusion’ (1986) — 217

Gillian Beer

Representing Women: Re-presenting the Past [Extract] (1989) — 229

Katharina Prager

Things Mean Differently at Different Historical Moments: Re-thinking (Literary) History and Biography — 238

VIII — Contents

David E. Nye

Post-Thomas Edison (Recalling an Anti-Biography) (2003) — 244

Katharina Prager and Vanessa Hannessschläger

From 'Anti-Biography' to Online Biography? — 256

Graeme Turner

Approaching Celebrity Studies [Extract] (2010) — 263

Edward Saunders

Biography and Celebrity Studies — 269

List of Sources — 276

Editorial Note — 278

Select Bibliography — 279

List of Contributors — 287