Marinetti: Critical Writings

CONTENTS

Editor’s Foreword ix
Translator’s Preface xiii
Introduction: F. T. Marinetti (1876–1944): A Life Between Art and Politics xxi

THE PRE-FUTURIST YEARS (1876–1908)
1. Self-Portrait 5

THE FOUNDATION OF FUTURISM (1909)
2. The Foundation and Manifesto of Futurism 11
3. Futurism: An Interview with Mr. Marinetti in Comoedia 18
4. Second Futurist Proclamation: Let’s Kill Off the Moonlight 22
5. Preface to Mafarka the Futurist 32
6. We Renounce Our Symbolist Masters, the Last of All Lovers of the Moonlight 43

THE FUTURIST POLITICAL PROGRAM (1909–13)
7. First Futurist Political Manifesto 49
8. Our Common Enemies 51
9. War, the Sole Cleanser of the World 53
10. Against Sentimentalized Love and Parliamentarianism 55
11. The Necessity and Beauty of Violence 60
12. Second Futurist Political Manifesto 73
13. Third Futurist Political Manifesto 75

THE FUTURIST COMBAT IN THE ARTISTIC ARENA (1910–15)
14. Against Academic Teachers 81
15. Extended Man and the Kingdom of the Machine 85
16. Lecture to the English on Futurism 89
17. The Futurist Manifesto Against English Art 94
18. Futurist Proclamation to the Spaniards 97
19. An Open Letter to the Futurist Mac Delmarle 104
20. Technical Manifesto of Futurist Literature 107
22. Down with the Tango and Parsifal! 132
23. Geometrical and Mechanical Splendor and Sensitivity Toward Numbers 135
24. On the Subject of Futurism: An Interview with La diana 143

BIRTH OF A FUTURIST THEATER (1910–17)
25. Futurism’s First Battles 151
26. The Battles of Trieste 158
27. The Battles of Venice 165
28. The Battles of Rome 170
29. The Battle of Florence 175
30. The Explorers of Futurism 178
31. Manifesto of Futurist Playwrights: The Pleasures of Being Bored 181
32. The Variety Theater 185
33. Dynamic, Multichanneled Recitation 193
34. A Futurist Theater of Essential Brevity 200
35. Futurist Dance 208

FUTURISM AND THE GREAT WAR (1911–17)
36. Electric War: A Futurist Visionary Hypothesis 221
37. The Futurists, the First Interventionists 226
38. In This Futurist Year 231
39. The Meaning of War for Futurism: Interview with L’avvenire 238
40. Futurism and the Great War 245

FUTURIST ART DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR (1916)
41. Birth of a Futurist Aesthetic 249
42. The New Ethical Religion of Speed 253
43. The Futurist Cinema 260
44. Some Parts of the Film Futurist Life 266

THE POSTWAR POLITICAL BATTLE (1918–23)
45. Manifesto of the Futurist Political Party 271
46. An Artistic Movement Creates a Political Party 277
47. Branches of the Futurist Political Party, the Arditi, and the Legionnaires of Fiume 283
48. A Meeting with the Duce 285
49. The Founding of the Fasci di Combattimento 287
50. Fascism and the Milan Speech 289
51. The Battle of Via Mercanti 292
52. Old Ideas That Go Hand in Glove but Need to Be Separated 297
53. Futurist Democracy 300
54. The Proletariat of Talented People 304
55. Against Marriage 309
56. Synthesis of Marx’s Thought 313
57. Synthesis of Mazzini’s Thought on Property and Its Transformation 315
58. Technocratic Government Without Parliament or Senate, but with a Board of Initiatives 317
59. Futurist Patriotism 321
60. Against the Papacy and the Catholic Mentality, Repositories of Every Kind of Traditionalism 323
61. Speech in Parliament 328
62. Address to the Fascist Congress of Florence 330
63. Beyond Communism 339
64. To Every Man, a New Task Every Day!: Inequality and the Artocracy 352
65. Artistic Rights Defended by the Italian Futurists 357

THE RETURN TO THE ARTISTIC DOMAIN (1920–33)
66. What Is Futurism?: Elementary Lessons 367
67. Tactilism: A Futurist Manifesto 370
68. Tactilism: Toward the Discovery of New Senses 377
69. The Theater of Surprises 383
70. Memorandum on Stage Presence and the Style of Theater 386
71. The Abstract Antipsychological Theater of Pure Elements and the Tactile Theater 388
72. Futurist Photography 392
73. Manifesto of Futurist Cuisine 394
74. Total Theater: Its Architecture and Technology 400
75. A Futurist Theater of the Skies Enhanced by Radio and Television 408
76. The Radio 410

Appendix: Manuscript Version of Document 11: The Necessity and Beauty of Violence 415

Notes 423
Bibliography 511
Name Index 513
Subject Index 523