REFLECTIONS ON EXILE
and Other Literary and Cultural Essays

EDWARD W. SAID

Granta Books
London
## CONTENTS

Introduction xi  

1. Labyrinth of Incarnations: The Essays  
   of Maurice Merleau-Ponty  
   1  

2. Sense and Sensibility  
   On R. P. Blackmur, Georges Poulet, and E. D. Hirsch  
   15  

3. Amateur of the Insoluble  
   On E. M. Cioran  
   24  

4. A Standing Civil War  
   On T. E. Lawrence  
   31  

5. Arabic Prose and Prose Fiction After 1948  
   41  

6. Between Chance and Determinism: Lukács's *Aesthetik*  
   61  

7. Conrad and Nietzsche  
   70  

8. Vico on the Discipline of Bodies and Texts  
   83  

9. Tourism among the Dogs  
   On George Orwell  
   93  

10. Bitter Dispatches from the Third World  
    98  

11. Grey Eminence  
    On Walter Lippmann  
    105  

12. Among the Believers  
    On V. S. Naipaul  
    113  

13. Opponents, Audiences, Constituencies,  
    and Community  
    118  

14. Bursts of Meaning  
    On John Berger and Jean Mohr  
    148
15. Egyptian Rites 153
16. The Future of Criticism 165
17. Reflections on Exile 173
18. Michel Foucault, 1927–1984 187
19. Orientalism Reconsidered 198
20. Remembrances of Things Played: Presence and Memory in the Pianist’s Art
   On Glenn Gould 216
21. How Not to Get Gored
   On Ernest Hemingway 230
22. Foucault and the Imagination of Power 239
23. The Horizon of R. P. Blackmur 246
24. Cairo Recalled: Growing Up in the Cultural Crosscurrents of 1940s Egypt 268
25. Through Gringo Eyes: With Conrad in Latin America 276
26. The Quest for Gillo Pontecorvo 282
27. Representing the Colonized: Anthropology’s Interlocutors 293
28. After Mahfouz 317
29. Jungle Calling
   On Johnny Weissmuller’s Tarzan 327
30. Cairo and Alexandria 337
31. Homage to a Belly-Dancer
   On Tabia Carioca 346
32. Introduction to Moby-Dick 356
33. The Politics of Knowledge 372
34. Identity, Authority, and Freedom:
   The Potentate and the Traveler 386
35. The Anglo-Arab Encounter
   On Abdaf Soueif 405
36. Nationalism, Human Rights, and Interpretation 411
37. Traveling Theory Reconsidered 436
38. History, Literature, and Geography 453
39. Contra Mundum
   On Eric Hobsbawm 474
40. Bach’s Genius, Schumann’s Eccentricity, Chopin’s Ruthlessness, Rosen’s Gift 484
41. Fantasy’s Role in the Making of Nations
   On Jacqueline Rose 493
42. On Defiance and Taking Positions 500
Contents

43. From Silence to Sound and Back Again: Music, Literature, and History  507
44. On Lost Causes  527
45. Between Worlds  554
46. The Clash of Definitions  569
   On Samuel Huntington

Notes  593
Credits  605
Index  609