

Contents

Short Titles and Abbreviations — XI

Historical Table — XIII

Introduction and Historical Contexts — 1

1. Overview of the chapters and secondary literature — 3
2. General historical contexts — 7
3. Germanophone Catholicism — 11

Chapter One: Studies and early cultural criticism — 23

1. Balthasar's studies — 23
2. *Entwicklung der musikalischen Idee* (1925) — 30
3. Cultural criticism and generational framework — 39

Chapter Two: Guardini, Goethe, Nietzsche and literature theology — 47

1. Guardini and the “Christian worldview” — 49
2. Guardini and Goethe — 56
3. Nietzsche and life-philosophy — 64

Chapter Three: The *George-Kreis*, myth and the Conservative Revolution — 85

1. Stefan George and the *George-Kreis* — 87
2. Myth in *Apokalypse* (1937–1939) and *Irenäus* (1943) — 100
3. Derleth, Küng, Raeber and the *Balthasar-Kreis* — 120

Chapter Four: *Volk, deutsche Seele* and the “Staat-Kirche-Gesellschaft” totality — 135

1. Swiss fascism and Julius Schmidhauser (1934) — 136
2. *Deutschtum, Christentum* and *die deutsche Seele* — 151
3. Writings from the 1930s and early 1940s — 162

Chapter Five: Nazi Germany and *Stimmen der Zeit* — 184

1. National Socialism, Catholicism and *Stimmen der Zeit* — 185
2. The journal and its ideological context (1933–1941) — 189
3. Balthasar's reviews, articles and review essays — 214

Chapter Six: Erich Przywara and Karl Barth — 228

1. The “great Father Przywara” — 228

2. Barth reception — **232**
3. The Barth-Balthasar relationship — **245**

Chapter Seven: The anti-modern anti-Semitic complex — 250

1. Rilke reception in 1932 and in 1940 — **252**
2. Writings from the 1930s and 1940s — **260**
3. Historical contextualization and analysis — **276**

Chapter Eight: *Renouveau Catholique*, Neo-Scholasticism and *Nouvelle Théologie* — 288

1. The *Renouveau Catholique*, Speyr and Rahner — **289**
2. Neo-Scholasticism, *Nouvelle Théologie* and Lubac — **305**
3. *Présence et Pensée* (1942), *Wahrheit* (1947) and Rahner — **328**

Conclusion — 337

Bibliography — 345

- Balthasar's books — **345**
- Balthasar's articles, essays, translations and introductions — **346**
- Balthasar's book reviews — **348**
- Other consulted or cited literature — **349**

Name Index — 377