

Contents



Introduction 1

CHAPTER ONE

Sublimity and Skepticism in Montaigne's *Journal de voyage* 18

CHAPTER TWO

The Grandeur of Ruin in the *Essais* 43

CHAPTER THREE

Comus and the Invention of Milton's Grand Style 82

CHAPTER FOUR

Paradise Lost and How (Not) to Be Sublime 108

Conclusion 134

Notes 155

Bibliography 185

Index 201