

## *Contents*

Introduction	I
CHAPTER 1. Walt Whitman “Live”: Performing the Public Sphere	16
CHAPTER 2. The Ordeal of Vachel Lindsay, or The Cultural Politics of the Spoken Word	55
CHAPTER 3. “The Black Man Speaks”: Langston Hughes, the New Negro, and the Sounds of Citizenship	88
CHAPTER 4. Beat Acoustics, Presence, and Resistance	124
CHAPTER 5. “Rappin’ and Readin’”: The Frequencies of the Black Arts	162
CHAPTER 6. Slam Nation: Immediacy, Mediatization, and the Counterpublic Sphere	199
Afterword	230
Notes	235
Index	263