Acknowledgments

Evidently this study has personal and professional importance for me, and I want to thank those who have given me support in my training and work on it: my parents, Harry and Gertrude Ahearn; my children, Sally and Ed; teachers, critics and friends, including Edmund Tolk, Brother Basilides Andrew O'Connor, F.S.C., Peter Demetz, Lowry Nelson, Thomas Greene, Kenneth Cornell, Cleanth Brooks, René Etiemble, Marcel Ruff, C. A. Hackett, W. M. Frohock, Richard Laden, Mary Ann Caws, Renée Riese Hubert, Robert Greer Cohn, Nathaniel Wing, Anna Balakian, and particularly René Wellek and Henri Peyre; former and current Brown University colleagues, especially Juan López-Morillas, Albert Cook, and George Morgan; David Pines and the Center for Advanced Study at the University of Illinois, Brown University, the Danforth Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, the last providing fellowship support that allowed me to complete this project; Pamela Stacey Renna and Caryl Morris, who assisted me with research on Rimbaud and French Symbolism; and indeed all the students in the departments of
French Studies and Comparative Literature, and the Human Studies program at Brown University, who helped me (within the framework of an innovative curriculum) to refine my views on Rimbaud, other writers, literary theory, and aspects of other disciplines. Nor do I want to forget those, regretfully no longer with us, who influenced and encouraged my work—the late Harry Blair, Rosalie Colie, and Reinhard Kuhn. I also must thank *La Revue de Littérature Comparée*, in which portions of chapter 3 originally appeared, and Roland Fischer and the American Association for the Advancement of Science for authorization to reproduce a diagram from his article “Cartography of Inner Space.” (The figure first appeared in “A Cartography of the Ecstatic and Meditative States,” *Science* 174 [1971], 897–904, copyright 1971 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.) More than anything, however, I express my gratitude to Ann and Arnold Weinstein and to my wife, Michèle Respaut, with whom I want most of all to share this book.