## Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction: A Modernism of the City 1

**PART I: INVENTING THE NEW VERSE**

1. American Poetry on the Brink, 1905–12  9

2. *Poetry’s Opening Door*: Harriet Monroe and American Modernism  26

3. Young, Blithe, and Whimsical: The Avant-Gardism of *The Masses*  54

4. There Is Always *Others*: Experimental Verse and “Ulterior Social Result”  79

5. Volunteers of America, 1917: The *Seven Arts* and the Great War  118

**PART II: KEYS TO THE CITY**

6. Gutter and Skyline: The New Verse and the Metropolitan Cityscape  147

7. Footprints of the Twentieth Century: American Skyscrapers, Modern Poems  180

8. Subway Fare: Toward a Poetics of Rapid Transit  217

Notes  263

Bibliography  303

Index  327