ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Research is not possible without the individuals and institutions that help, sympathize, empathize, and co-operate with the researcher. Therefore, although this research was carried out without any grant of scholarship or financial assistance or even any kind of exemption from college duties, yet there are some persons and institutions that have created a special place in my mind through their share in the completion of this research.

I am particularly grateful to Dr. B. S. Valke who supervised the research and guided me through its various stages. His relationship with me has never been ‘professional,’ though he had to be so in matters regarding the study; it was his fatherly endurance, watchfulness, chiding while guiding that kept urging me toward the goal I had edged as he also tempered my views and expression. I am indebted to Dr. Ashok Thorat, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Fine Arts, University of Pune for creating a Grove of Academe in our discussions, for his making me aware of the value of an applied research, for his provocative cross-questioning with reference to my research, academic sensibility and ambitions. All this ultimately shared in my research. I am also grateful to Dr. S. B. Gokhale, Head, Department of English, University of Pune for unassumingly entertaining my queries regarding poetic uses of pronouns and for his co-operation in many university matters; his clarity of thought and simplicity of style has been encouraging to all alike.

Prof. Vinaydeep Rathi of Ahmednagar College read the draft of this study with patience and care. I am grateful to him for his many suggestions and comments. I am indebted to Mrs. Aparna Kshirsagar-Mahapatra for translations of the French in Stevens’ poetry.

It was the Indo-American Center for International Studies (IACIS; formerly American Studies Research Center), Hyderabad which encouraged me to embark on the study since no other library in India has as much study material on both Wallace Stevens and Jacques Lacan. Its staff was always ready to help and co-operate. I thank IACIS and its staff. I am also thankful to the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad for allowing temporary membership.
Mr. Sanjay Kharate deserves special mention here; he has been a friend indeed. He lives in the United States and has been my means of acquiring those recent books published on Lacan which are not yet or easily available in India. He bought them for me and saw that it did not cost me at all. He would not like to be thanked.

My greatest debt is to Wallace Stevens and Jacques Lacan. The works of both the writers are highly cerebral and poetic at once; this kept appealing and challenging me as well as suggesting to me that their work is still not fully utilized. I am equally grateful to those who have written on Stevens or/and on Lacan; their criticism of these writers — whether I agree or disagree with it — was like streetlights in the light of and through which I could lead my research safely to its destination. In much the same way, I am indebted to all my friends for their support and encouragement.