ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My heartfelt gratitude to the Head of the Department, Dr. M. P. Marathe, and teachers of the Department of Philosophy, University of Pune, for making this research possible for me. My special gratitude to my research supervisor, Dr. S.S. Deshpande, for his inspiring and patient guidance over the years. I appreciate his ability to allow a student to develop her own line of thinking and his willingness to discuss ideas perceptively and fairly, even if the view-point may not concur with his own. I also appreciate his fine sense of organization, which was a great help in putting this research together.

My sincere gratitude to Dr. Gayatri Spivak, Dr. Suzi Tharu, Dr. Venkat Rao, Dr. Aniket Jaware and Dr. Neela Karnik for brief but insightful discussions relating to the problem of this thesis.

I am grateful to the Indian Council of Philosophical Research for the honour of the award of the Junior Research Fellowship to me for this project, which unfortunately, I could not avail of, due to unavoidable circumstances.

I wish to acknowledge the help rendered to me by the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages and the American Studies Research Centre, both at Hyderabad, which, besides the University of Pune, made the reading material required for this research available to me.

I am grateful to my friends among research scholars and associates in the Department of Philosophy for several informal discussions and seminars, which helped me to clarify many ideas to myself. I would specially like to thank Dr. Venugopal, Ms. Maya Venugopal, Dr. Dipti Gangawane and Dr. Archana Degaonkar. Dr. Lata Bapat was a great help because of the warm friendship and encouragement she gave me.

I wish to thank Dr. S. W. Bokil for explaining some crucial points regarding the problem of this thesis to me. I thank Dr. (Mrs) Kelkar for some enlightening discussions. I thank Dr. Surendra Jondhale for some discussions about art and politics. I am grateful to Dr. Uday Kumar and Dr. R. Raj Rao for allowing me to attend seminars at the Department of English, University of Pune, where I learned very much about contemporary literary theory.

Dr. R. R. Rao being a creative writer himself helped me to see the links between theory and creative practice, which I valued very much. Likewise, the enlightening discussions I had
with Sudhir Sonalkar helped me to sustain a lively interest in this research. Sudhir's erudition and love of humanity brought an urgency to my research, which was very precious to me.

I wish to thank my friend, Brian Mendonca, for his hospitality during my visits to Hyderabad for research.

I wish to thank Mrs. Sunita Tsdale and her assistant Mrs. Radha Borawake, for doing a fine and efficient job of typing and compiling this thesis.

I thank the non-teaching staff members of the Department of Philosophy, particularly, Ms. Kishori, for their full cooperation in my work.

My infinite gratitude to all my friends and relatives for their continuous encouragement during this research. I am grateful to my ex-husband, Dr. Shreehari Marathe for his lasting friendship and intellectually stimulating company. I have no words to express my gratitude to my parents who did everything they could to make this research possible for me. Their unfailing love is my greatest strength.

Gitanjali Rao