## Contents

Introduction	1
1. Disbelief, and the Suspension of Judgment	
in Ovid's Metamorphoses	17
Problems of Ethics in the Metamorphoses	26
Perception as a Problem of Natural Philosophy	
in the Metamorphoses	38
Rhetorical and Poetic Figures of Metamorphosis	54
Conclusion: Philosophy and the	
Ovidian Notion of Poetry	72
2. The Triumph of Subjectivity in Petrarch's Rime Sparse	79
Pierre Bersuire and the Medieval Metamorphoses	81
Visions and Revisions: Several Myths of Metamorphosis in the <i>Rime</i> Self-Fragmentation: The 'canzone delle	92
metamorfosi'	100
'In my End is my Beginning:' The 323rd poem	122
<ol> <li>Imagination and Nature in the Lyric Poetry of Piene de Ronsard Myths of Metamorphosis and Ronsard's</li> </ol>	133
Theory of Poetry Varieties of Metamorphosis in Ronsard's	133
Poetry	144
Demons and the Metamorphic Imagination	166
Metamorphosis and Poetic Inspiration: 'Le Nuage'	196

Metamorphosis as a Figure of Poetic Production: 'Le Voiage de Tours'	206
The Limitations of Mutability:	
The 'Discours à Chauveau '	214
Epilogue: The Poet as 'Easy Philosopher'	229
Bibliography	239
Index	253