## **CONTENTS**

List of Illustrations ix

Foreword by Joseph Leo Koerner xi

Introduction 1
Baldung's Polluted Witches, Poison Maids, Basilisks and Crones 1
Chapters, Topics and Themes 19

# 1 The Abject Erotic Feminine in Hans Baldung Grien 29

Sourcing Baldung's Witch and Dragon 29
Venomous Virgins, Poison Maidens and Cunning Courtesans 34

### 2 The World of Baldung's 1510 Witches' Sabbath 41

Abject Signifiers with Moral Contexts 43
Classical Reception, 'The Foul Vessel' and Baldung's Humanist Milieu 50
Intellectual and Emotional Histories for Baldung's Witchcraft
Iconography 55
Learned White Magicians and 'Natural' Black Witches 63
A Clerical Gynaecology and a Witch Hunter's Handbook 65

#### 3 Baldung's 'Jewish' Witches 69

The Saturnine Heresy of Jews and Witches 69 Menstruation, Cannibalism, Pollution and Black Bile 82

#### 4 Baldung and the Witch Doctors 93

Medicine, Magic and Monsters 94
Baldung and the Four Temperaments 99
Saturnalian Revels in the New Year's Sheet 109

viii CONTE

#### 5 Blood, Visions, Witch Women and Saints 115

The Witches' Exclusive Sex 116

#### 6 Baldung and the Morality of Vision 131

Theories of Visual Uncertainty 131
Tales of Blood Magic, Witchcraft, Medicine and Redemption 133
Sinister Sight Lines, Chaste Stillness and Lustful Movement 142

#### 7 Classical Reception, Toxic Femininity and Hippomanes in The Bewitched Groom 153

Classical Concepts of Female/Equine Venery 156 Sourcing Baldung's Travesties of Horses in Feminine Matter 163 The Enchanted Stable, Dairy Barn, Bath and Boudoir 164 Hags, Harridans, Viragos and Crones 169 The Ultimate Fulcra of Feminine Malignancy 175

#### 8 Humanist Humour in Baldung 179

Jokes for Courtiers 181 Foolish Virgins and Scheming Demons 186 Monstrous Travesties 194

#### 9 Erudite Obscenities and Pious Pornography 199

Morbid Emblems and Mortifying Voyeurism 199 Scatological Humour and Edifying Burlesque 205 Spinning and Idling 213

#### Conclusion 221

Acknowledgements 231 Notes 233 Bibliography 269 Index 286

2