## Contents

Figures ix  
Plates xiii  
Acknowledgments xvii

1 Introduction: The Rise of Animation in France 1  
   The Beginnings of Animation 4  
   Stop-Motion Animation Attractions 19

2 Silent Animation: Emile Cohl and his Artisanal Legacy 22  
   Emile Cohl, Caricature, and the Rise of Studio Animation 22  
   Emile Cohl at Pathé, Eclipse, and Eclair Studios 36  
   Graphic Art and the Cartoon: Lortac and O’Galop 45  
   But is it “Animation?” French Avant-Garde and Moving Pictures 54

3 French Animation and the Coming of Sound 60  
   Ladislas Starewicz’s Fabled Puppets 61  
   Berthold Bartosch’s L’Idée: A Working-Class Allegory 73  
   Jean Painlevé’s La Barbe bleue 78  
   Alexandre Alexeieff, Claire Parker, and the Pinscreen 82  
   Niche Cartoons: Lyrical Joie de vivre and the Surreal  
      La Fortune enchantée 90

4 Toward an Alternative Studio Structure 99  
   Paul Grimault and the Artist-Owned Animation Studio 100  
   Transitional Animation: From High Art to Made-for-TV 107  
   Toward a New Era of Micro-Studios: Laguionie and Laloux 114

5 French Animation’s Renaissance 124  
   Le Cartoon Plan 124  
   Michel Ocelot’s Alternative Mode of Production 127
## Contents

*Comic Book Aesthetics and Niche Studios* 139  
*Contemporary French Animation: 2006 and Beyond* 149  

6 Conclusion: French Animation Today 162

References 171  
Further Reading 178  
Index 181